DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 165 042 CG 013 103

TITLE	Generations: Western Gerontological Society, Quarterly Newsletter, Vol. 2, No. 2, Summer 1977.
PUB DATE	77
NOTE	37p.; Photos may reproduce poorly
AVAILABLE FROM	Western Gerontological Society, 785 Market St., Suite 1114, San Francisco, CA 94103
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$2.06 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Action Programs (Community); American Indians; Asian Americans; Community Recreation Programs; Federal Programs; Gerontology; Mexican Americans; *Minority Groups; Newsletters; *Older Adults; Retirement; *Social Responsibility; Social Services; Welfare Problems
IDENTIFIERS	*Aging

ABSTRACT

This quarterly newsletter of the Western Gerontological Society focuses on minority aging. Topics included are: special needs, unequal suffering, Asian elderly, natural networks, aging across cultures, program barriers, policy implications, multicultural programming and employment, Native American customs in service delivery, and recreation planning and housing. A list of names and addresses of organizations which deal with issues for minority aging in the western states is included. (BN)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED165042

GENERATIONS

WESTERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

West Geront. Soc.

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC) AND USERS OF THE ERIC SYSTEM."

summer 1977

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

In this issue:
Minority Elderly

$2.00

CG013103

A CALL FOR ACTION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

A draft policy statement emerged from the July meetings of the WGS Board and committees. It stands as a comprehensive statement of the goals agreed upon at those meetings but reveals little of the excitement of the sessions in which it was discussed. I think it is important to recall the enthusiasm and the diversity of participants in the sessions, because it will be PEOPLE who convert the rhetoric into actions.

We hope you'll join in both the creation of the final policy statement and in any subsequent actions. You'll receive a copy of the draft statement very soon. You can find a schedule of these meetings on p. 2. The language of this statement is impersonal but the ideas can be dynamic — and controversial. The policy statement includes a list of major concerns which the WGS should constantly bring to Congressional attention so that they may be used in developing legislation to guide national policy. This listing includes not only comfortable references to the needs of the rural and minority elderly, and aging research, but also areas fraught with political implications and touching on intergovernmental and interagency sensitivities.

When it comes to action, every individual who voices concern for the aging and seeks a way to improve the living standards and lifestyle of older Americans not only can help — but must help. WGS must actively seek to have new ideas fully discussed, vigorously evaluated, and carefully tested. Those that prove helpful must be passed along for others to try in their own settings. Failures, too, should be appropriately shared in hopes that ineffective approaches will not be repeated.

We often hear well-meaning intentions expressed — wanting to help is not enough (either in policy matters or in WGS activities). Good intentions should be the motivating force but if they are not followed by involvement at the local level, nothing happens.

Our problems have been articulately defined; it is time for the DOERS to take over!

Marian Lupu
President, 1977-78

GENERATIONS

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Western Gerontological Society

Vol. II, No. 2 Summer, 1977

Co-Editors
Jodi Cohn
Deborah Newquist

Assignment Editor
Kathy Kenny

Associate Editors
Mark Hucklebridge
Charlotte Leigh-Taylor

Senior Editors
Josephine M. Smith
Dwight C. Smith

Student Editor
Cynthia Mitchell

WESTERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY
785 Market Street, Suite 1114
San Francisco, Ca. 94103
(415)543-2617

Staff
Gloria Haerther-Cavanaugh, Executive Director
Martha Holstein, Deputy Director
Joyce Klein, Administrative Assistant
Edward Graziani, Clerk Typist/Receptionist
Mary Elizabeth Milloy, Part-time Membership Secretary
Virginia Stromberg, Part-time Title IX Typist
Betty Guyer, Volunteer

All contributions are subject to review of the editors and become property of Western Gerontological Soceity, unless otherwise stipulated. Materials submitted must be typewritten, double-spaced and include contributor's name, place of contact, telephone and date. Letters to the Editor should not exceed 200 words.

Photographs must be glossy black and white prints, no smaller than 3" x 5". Include photographer's name, address and any relevant descriptive copy. Identify subject matter left to right on attached sheet. Do not write on photos with ballpoint pen or pencil. Send all materials to the attention of *Generations* in care of the Western Gerontological Society.

MINI NOTES

The "aging network" reports that President Carter will be sending the name of **Bertram Beck** to the Senate for confirmation as the new Commissioner on Aging. Beck, the Director of the Henry Street Settlement in New York City, holds an MSW degree from the University of Chicago. Though the Settlement House offers in-house and home services to the elderly, Beck himself is most closely identified with the field of juvenile delinquency. It is unlikely that confirmation hearings will take place until Congress reconvenes in September. If you have any comments or questions that you would like to see addressed in the hearing, address them to Senator Harrison Williams, Chairperson, Senate Committee on Human Resources.

Leon Harper, Secretary of the WGS Board of Directors and Director of the Los Angeles County AAA, has been elected President of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A).

The appointment of **Nelson Cruikshank** as the first Presidential Counselor on Aging and Chairman of the Federal Council was announced early in June. Since this is a first, it will be important to see how the role of Counselor develops in matters of advocacy, policy development, and coordination. The position can become an important one in bringing some focal point within the White House for aging issues. Also, as Chairman of the Federal Council, Cruikshank will have the chance to nominate nine members to fill vacancies and help set new directions for Council activity. His previous position with the National Council of Senior Citizens has given him wide experience in advocacy, especially in such critical areas as Social Security and Health Care Legislation.

For those of you who weren't there, we hope you can make it next time. The **Open House**, held at the WGS offices on July 15, brought together many Bay Area members and friends, our Board and staff, for a festive few hours. Over food and wine, we all had the chance to meet informally, relax, and look ahead to the kinds of things we'd like to do in the future. We are planning another Open House in conjunction with the November Gerontological Society meeting here in San Francisco and will also be meeting with many of you during the course of our regional meetings this September and October.

CONTENTS

President's Message ..... inside front cover
Mini Notes 1

WGS NEWS

Fall Regional Meetings Slated to Review Future Programming 2
Task Forces to Examine Government Policy Issues 3
Membership Committee Chairperson Encourages Sharing Ideas for Future Services 4
Two Staff Persons Join WGS San Francisco Office 4
Employment Committee Plans to Coordinate Clearinghouse for Employers, Job Seekers 4
Japan Tour Planned Next Year With International Congress 5

From the Editors 5

MINORITY AGING

Meeting Special Needs 6
A Case of Unequal Suffering 7
An Action Oriented Study: Pacific Asian Elderly Research Project 8
Natural Networks: Paths to Services 9
Minority Aging Organizations 11
Aging Across Cultures 12
Barriers to Service Use 14
Give Up Stereotypes 14
Federal Agencies Open Doors to Minority Participation 15
Non-Chronological Definitions of Aging: Policy Implications 16
Interview with Carnella Barnes, a WGS Pioneer 18
Multi-Cultures, Varied Programming 20
Employment Program Crosses Cultural Barriers 21
Integrating a Community Center 22
Native American Customs Bear on Service Delivery 24
Self-Help for the Elderly 24
Recreation Planning for the Black Elderly 26
Cultural Heritage Valued by Navajo Foster Grandparents 27
"Nueva Maravilla" Combines Housing and Senior Center 28

REGULAR FEATURES

Insights 29
Vibrations 30
Happenings 31
Transcripts from Denver 32
San Diego Proceedings 32
Membership form ..... inside back cover

cover photo by Greg Castillo

Generations is sent to members of the Western Gerontological Society four times each year. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors or the Western Gerontological Society.

Additional copies of *Generations* are available for members and non-members at $2.00 per copy. Discounts are available for quantity orders.

© Western Gerontological Society, Summer 1977.

Fall Regional Meetings Slated To Review Future Programming

Members of some WGS standing committees and staff will be taking to the road this September and October for a series of regional meetings. At these meetings there will be an opportunity 1) for discussion of plans for the Annual Meeting — topics, resource persons, general sessions, special events, 2) a consideration of the development of new membership services, 3) and a review of public policy issues to be considered by the WGS.

We look forward to seeing you during the September/October meetings. Members will receive a packet in the mail soon with further details. The tentative list below suggests planned dates and places for the meetings.

Sept. 15	Salem, OR
Sept. 16	Seattle, WA
Sept. 19	Boise, ID
Sept. 20	Salt Lake City, UT
Sept. 21	Carson City, NV
Sept. 26	Los Angeles, CA
Sept. 27	San Diego, CA
Sept. 28	Phoenix, AZ
Sept. 29	Tucson, AZ
Oct. 3	Denver, CO; Helena, MT
Oct. 4	Bismarck, ND; Albuquerque, NM
Oct. 5	Cheyenne, WY; Pierre, SD
Oct. 7	San Francisco, CA
Oct. 11	Sacramento, CA
Oct. 12	San Jose, CA
Oct. 13	Visalia, CA

In addition to requesting that these meetings take place throughout the geographical region that the WGS serves, the Program Planning Committee outlined some basic guidelines for the 1978 Annual Meeting to be held in Tucson from April 9-12. For example, added to the program will be from six to eight hours of intensive training scheduled during the course of the meeting to provide for special needs of participants.

Additionally, the planning committee is recommending holding at least one plenary session each day. Futuristics has been mentioned as the theme of the closing plenary session; another will be the report of the task forces combined with a general session on advocacy. (See the next article for a fuller explanation of the anticipated reports and for a discussion of WGS public policy concerns.) The Program Planning Committee also recommended that all conference sessions have a dual identity. In addition to titles and descriptions, each session will also be identified in two other ways:

Level of Complexity/Expertise-Those of you who attend the Annual Meetings of the WGS may need very basic training in some areas and intermediate or advanced in other areas. Each session will be designed to meet a particular level of need and this will be indicated on the program. Individuals can then select the appropriate level for their particular needs in any given area.

Function, Role in Field/Interests-Given the diverse constituency of persons attending the WGS meetings, the Program Planning Committee and Board have also recommended that sessions focus on aspects of topics that will specifically address the concerns of 1) direct service providers and, 2) program developers and managers. Additionally, topics will be chosen for their relationship to issues of self-growth and creative life styles. Sessions will thus be identified by level and occupational specialty.

Selection of actual topics and resource persons, will not be completed until the Program Planning Committee meets after the series of regional planning meetings. Added to the input from these will be written suggestions, responses to the Call for Presentations, and ideas expressed in evaluations of the Denver meetings. In the end, the Committee hopes that participants will be able to select sessions appropriate to their level of experience and role in the field.

Carl Eisdorfer, of the University of Washington School of Medicine, chairs the committee. It is co-chaired by Alice Kethley, also of the University of Washington. Other members include: Mel Henry (Portland), George Hacker (Denver), Donna Cohen (Seattle), Clarice Parashis (San Jose), George Effman (Sacramento), Paul Nathanson (Los Angeles), Wil Overgaard (Boise), Jack McCarthy (San Francisco), Dena Anderson (San Diego), Tish Sommers (Oakland),Paul Kerschner (Los Angeles), Ira Hirschfield (Los Angeles), and Norine Miover (Phoenix).

LEGAL ASSISTANCE READIES HANDICAPPED NEWSLETTER

Senior Adults Legal Assistance in Palo Alto, California has begun publication of the **Law and the Handicapped Newsletter,** in order to disseminate information about SALA's project called, "Assistance in the Law for Physically Handicapped Elders."

Copies of the newsletter may be obtained from Mike Gilfix, 624 University Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94601.

Task Forces to Examine Government Policy Issues

The use of task forces to examine public policies affecting daily service provision has been suggested by the Program Planning Committee. These task forces will be created on specific topical areas and they will be charged with identifying common problems and breakdowns in government programs serving the elderly. For example, the earnings limitation under Social Security might be examined by a task force or the restrictions in Medicare coverage might be examined by another task force.

The intent will be to examine policy from the "bottom up", focusing on small-scale "street-level" issues. Such issues have relevance to those in the field who are not ordinarily concerned with larger policy issues. This type of endeavor offers the potential of helping service providers and users overcome day-to-day frustrations. Such issues are concrete and offer a realistic opportunity for change.

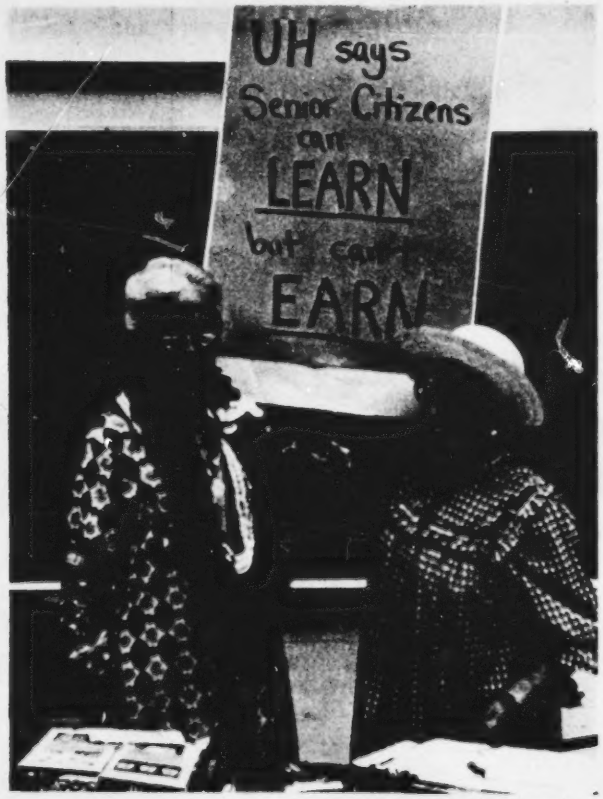


Photo by Gloria Wentowski.

TOO OLD TO TEACH—On the second day of a "Law and Advocacy" class, the University of Hawaii informed co-teacher, Maggie Kuhn, national convener of the Gray Panthers, that she was "too old" to receive a teaching contract and could serve only as a consultant. Two weeks later and after considerable political activity, the university changed its age policies for faculty instructing in the gerontology program and permitted Ms. Kuhn to assume her role as teacher.

Building on these daily implementation issues, major policies will be examined and evaluated. Documentation as to the type and extent of problems and strategies for change will be the responsibility of each task force. Recommendations will be submitted to the Policy Committee, and in turn, to the Board.

Selection of topics for these task forces will be made by the Policy Committee once an analysis of 1) results of a questionnaire sent to the entire membership and 2) input from the September regional planning meetings has been made.

Moving beyond the small-scale examples of policy breakdown, the committee will use this initial data as a means to understanding larger, related policy issues. Each problem example is in some way the consequence of a particular chain of compromises, decisions, and priorities emerging from the complex process of arriving at "public policy". By starting at the ground level, the committee hopes to solve basic problems while also working to effect basic changes in policy that are either ineffective or inappropriate.

These task forces, which will be ad hoc subcommittees of the Policy Committee, will hold scheduled sessions at the Tucson Annual Meeting and report the results of work accomplished to date at a plenary session. This will serve to alert participants to the issues that will be coming before the Policy Committee so that any commentary and/or reactions can be presented. Additionally, the task forces will offer continuity from one year's Annual Meeting to another and prepare material for the potential 1981 White House Conference on Aging. The findings will also provide a focus for action and implementation at the Annual Meeting.

In addition, the Policy Committee has developed a draft policy statement for submission to the membership. Once this is revised and adopted, it will serve as an overall WGS framework for understanding policy, for offering guidelines for positions on certain issues, for developing testimony, and for focusing on longer range concerns. At the Gerontological Society's San Francisco meeting this fall, the WGS will hold a membership forum to present the statement for final review and comment.

Look for all this to arrive as part of the packet you will receive for the September regional planning meetings—and please use the opportunity to inform the Policy Committee of your choices for task forces and for revisions in the policy statement.

Membership Committee Chairperson Encourages Sharing Ideas for Future Services

The last three years have been a time of tremendous growth for the Western Gerontological Society. As aging programs have expanded, WGS has become an organization for those looking for specialized information on aging programs in the western states. The annual meeting provides an opportunity to meet people and share interests, problems, and solutions to problems encountered.

This year the Society will be looking at ways of expanding its year-round services. It is our hope that people who have looked forward to the yearly meeting will begin looking toward WGS as an expanding resource in areas such as employment, resource development, and consultant information.

To gain specific information on areas in which members would like the Society to begin developing services, you will be asked to do a little brainstorming. Fall planning meetings will be used as forums for discussing new service ideas. A survey is being developed to poll members for other ideas. Use your imagination and do not limit yourself to the standard membership service items.

The only way that WGS can continue to be responsive to your needs is through the information you provide about services that would make your job easier (i.e., information sharing) or your life planning easier (group insurance). Please take the time to brainstorm future plans at the regional meetings.

If you have any specific ideas you would like to share, please contact:

Linda Devine, Membership Chairperson
Office of Aging
1961 Stout St.
Denver, Co. 80202

Two Staff Persons Join WGS San Francisco Office

Two new staffers have been hired at the WGS office in San Francisco, Ed Graziani and Virginia Steinberg. Ed is a recent graduate of the University of Miami and will serve in a clerical position.

Virginia was hired under TITLE IX Senior Employment Program as a typist. She has been involved in a wide variety of office activities and has expressed an interest in learning more about aging programs.

Employment Committee Plans To Coordinate Clearinghouse for Employers, Job Seekers

The Employment Opportunities Committee has begun to organize. Key persons representing different geographic areas in the WGS membership have been asked to serve on the committee but there is still an opportunity for interested persons who would like to take part.

The development of a central clearinghouse of job announcements and opportunities is an immediate task of the committee. Prospective employees would be matched with employers according to job demands and qualifications. This service would assist individuals seeking employment outside of their geographic locations. It would also reduce the time an employer spends in looking for an employee.

Currently, the operational details of the clearinghouse are still in the planning stages. Thus, suggestions and ideas are welcome for consideration. In addition, the committee is promoting the clearinghouse concept by requesting job announcements from public and private organizations.

Our committee will be exploring other related areas, such as employment opportunities for older persons and the placement and effectiveness of undergraduate programs in gerontology as they relate to the job market.

The committee is looking forward to hearing from you and would appreciate any support you can give. Please address all suggestions and inquiries to:

Shelly Levinthal, Committee Chairperson
Mediserv Home Health Agency, Inc.
26291 Production Ave., Suite 7
Hayward, Ca. 94545

Photo by Karen Ishizuka

Japan Tour Planned Next Year With International Congress

The Western Gerontological Society and the **Elvirita Lewis Foundation** will host a **tour of Japan**—highlighted by stays in Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Osaka—in conjunction with the XIth International Congress of Gerontology in Tokyo from August 20-25, 1978.

It's not too early for specialists, educators and students of gerontology to start planning for this rare opportunity to meet with Japanese professionals in aging and to visit the noted geriatric centers in Japan. Traditional landmarks, shinto shrines, and far eastern art museums will also be included in this tax-deductible tour.

The complete package includes breakfasts, hotel accommodations in Tokyo for the 5-day International Congress of Gerontology, round-trip air fare, bullet train transportation, a cruise on an inland steamer, and hotels in Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Osaka for the remainder of the trip. Cost will be under $1600 for the two week trip.

Additional information may be obtained from the Elvirita Lewis Foundation, 230 Third Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA. 95062.

FROM THE EDITORS

With this issue we will be moving toward a new focus for Generations. Though it will remain a vehicle for WGS news and communication, the newsletter will increasingly be a means for spotlighting issues and topics of interest to those in the growing field of aging. We will attempt to orient articles to persons in areas of administration, education, research, and direct services, as well as to the older population themselves.

Our new thrust commences in this issue with features on minority elderly. Articles covering policy issues, organizations representing the different minority groups, services projects, research studies, and interviews with two minority elderly individuals are presented.

The field of minority aging is expanding rapidly and in our preparation of this newsletter we learned of many excellent projects and activities in operation. We would like to emphasize that our choice of projects was not meant as an endorsement of any one project, nor was the selection intended to be a comprehensive one of all existing minority-focused efforts, Instead, we chose to spotlight major research studies and those service projects in the western states which were recommended to us as examples of approaches to serving minority elderly.

Our next issue will center on rural elderly; we are just beginning to identify projects which might be featured in that special section. If you are aware of a research or service project concerning rural elderly, we would like to learn about it.

WGS is a membership organization, thus we want the newsletter to reflect the needs and interests of the members as well as to explore new areas. We are very interested in your ideas and suggestions, and are anxious to have contributions in the form of photos and articles.

We would also like to start a "Letters to the Editor" column as a means for you to comment on WGS, Generations, or other activities in the aging field.

In closing, we'd like to thank our two previous editors, Dena Sweeney and Kathy Kenny, who were instrumental in the development of Generations.

We hope this special issue on minority aging is informative to you and we look forward to the contributions and suggestions you, as members, can make.

The 24th Annual Meeting of the Western Gerontological Society will be held from April 9-12, 1978 in Tucson, AZ.

Minority Aging

Meeting Special Needs

Aging is a universal experience of all living species. Yet within broad parameters, the human experience of aging is shaped by a host of factors—sex, average life span of one's ancestors, socioeconomic status and even race, color and place of national origin!

There has been a strong commitment in the field of aging to the elimination of race or ethnicity as a determinant of eligibility for services. Yet eligibility is only the initial step in a service delivery system. If equal accessibility of services is to be achieved, it is important to know whether race or ethnicity may increase or reduce accessibility; if needs are to be met, it is necessary to know whether needs are differentially distributed among ethnic groups; if services are to be provided to meet those needs, it is necessary to know whether minority groups seek to meet needs in different ways.

"Special" concern for minority elderly has sometimes been perceived as the denial of our common humanity. However, any individual is simultaneously like all others, like some others, and like no other on earth. Thus the concerns of researchers interested in minority elderly have not been based solely on a desire to carve out academic "turf" for themselves but rather on the recognition that elderly persons must be understood not only in terms of those things held in common with all elderly but also in terms of those things held in common only with members of their own or some other cultural groups. At the same time, practitioners serving minority elderly have recognized that despite the uniqueness of the elderly individual, there are some things he has in common with all elderly and other things held in common primarily with members of his own cultural group.

Each of the cultural groups addressed in this newsletter has created its own distinctive frame of reference from which its members view and assess themselves and their environment. We cannot afford to ignore that frame of reference in studying and serving the elderly.

Barbara Bryant Solomon, DSW
School of Social Work
University of Southern California

Photo by Greg Castillo.

A Case of Unequal Suffering

by Michael Gilfix, Director
Senior Adults Legal Assistance
Palo Alto, California

America's elders are typically referred to as our nation's forgotten minority. They are implicitly described as a homogeneous group facing similar problems from an identical perspective.

While such a description renders social service planning relatively easy, it reflects a surprising degree of ignorance. It also results in an unfortunate complacency in addressing the special needs of elders who are of minority backgrounds.

To a disconcerting extent, we have lost sight of the fact that minority elders have special needs: they are poorer than Anglo elders, they are more dependent on public benefits, and yet may be least able to obtain those benefits, they are more susceptible to consumer abuses and, most signiticantly, suffer from a legacy of racial discrimination that is typically exacerbated by entering elder status.

Without a doubt, poverty represents the greatest difference between minority and Anglo elders. Whereas Anglos are typically described as *becoming* poor upon the attainment of retirement, minorities suffer a far less perceptible decline in income. Moreover, a much higher proportion of minority elders are poorer than their Anglo age peers. For example, of those white persons

continued on next page

continued from page 7

who were heads of household and sixty-five years of age and over in 1973, only 8.4 percent had incomes below the established poverty line. In the same year, 31.4 percent of blacks in this position lived in extreme poverty.[1]

Disparities in Social Security

Spanish-speaking and Indian people also face a disproportionate degree of poverty, as do Asian Americans.[2]

Receipt of Social Security retirement benefits also reflects racial disparities. While some 90 per cent of Americans who are sixty-five years of age and older look to Social Security as their main source of income, only 80 per cent of blacks in this age status received any benefits at all in 1973. At the same time, over 92 per cent of Anglo elders received such benefits.[3]

These and other disparities in the receipt of Social Security benefits result from the failure of many minority persons to obtain "insured status", the failure of many employers to properly report some earnings, racial discrimination in employment and lower earnings that result in lower benefits.

At the same time, many minority persons fail to apply for these and other income-support benefits, such as Supplemental Security Income. They may be ignorant about such programs, reluctant to encounter bureaucracies that are alien, both in terms of culture and language. In the case of many Mexican-Americans who are unsure of their resident status, an additional deterrent is the fear that applying for benefits may result in deportation.

Shorter Life Span

Even if payments into the System are equalized, inequities pursue minority persons quite literally to their graves. That is, their life expectancies are substantially shorter than those of Anglos. As a result, they do not survive to collect their fair share of benefits.

Many of the causative factors discussed above combine to place elder minority persons at a disadvantage in other contexts, such as housing, consumerism, and health care.

Legal, as well as other types of services, must give increased attention to the needs of minority elders. Accepted concepts of "outreach" must be sensitized to the needs of minorities and focused upon them. Staff members must be culturally and linguistically compatible with these large and particularly vulnerable population groups. Only by doing so, and by working generally to redress the economic hardship of minority elders will providers of legal and other supportive services truly satisfy their responsibilities.

[1] *Facts and Figures on Older Americans, No. 11,* "Income and Poverty in 1973", Feb., 1975, U.S. Dept. of HEW, Administration on Aging, p. 11, Table 4.

[2] See *e.g.,* 1971 White House Conference on Aging: *Report of the Special Concerns Session on the Elderly Indian,* p. 3.

[3] Rubin, Leonard, "Economic Status of Black Persons: Findings from the Survey of Newly Entitled Beneficiaries", *Social Security Bulletin,* September, 1974, p. 2.

Pacific Asians include many different cultures.

An Action Oriented Study: Pacific Asian Elderly Research Project

by Dan Watanabe

The Pacific Asian Elderly Research Project, funded under an 18-month grant from the Administration on Aging, is a national action-oriented study currently in progress.

What are the critical factors in effectively delivering services to Pacific Island and Asian-American elderly? What are the barriers that prevent our elderly from utilizing services, and what can be done to overcome some of those barriers?

Most of us who are concerned about the service needs of our elderly have developed our own answers to such questions. However, there has been no previous attempt to systematically research these questions.

The Pacific Asian Elderly Research Project was established in order to construct service-delivery models which would be more responsive to the special needs and circumstances of our elderly.

Some of our activities are these:

Since September 1976 the Project has pulled together the limited Census and other baseline data on the Pacific Asian elderly. They are available as a set of fact sheets and a detailed report including additional information which is needed.

A review of the existing literature shows a similar shortage. Here, too, the results of our efforts will be

made available in a bibliography and an annotated bibliography. The latter covers 50 sources concerning the Pacific Asian elderly.

A "National Directory on Services to the Pacific Asian Elderly" is being compiled following our survey of agencies and organizations providing such services. It will be provided without charge to those groups who participated in the survey.

We have also asked individual service providers to share with us their perception of factors that ought to be involved in effectively delivering services to our elderly. The results of this survey will be incorporated in a working paper delineating tentative service-delivery models.

Goals are:

- To develop resource lists of researchers and service-providers in order to facilitate capacity-building within the Pacific Asian community for its own service-delivery and research.
- To develop a national Pacific Asian elderly newsletter, a communication medium through which the numerous community-based programs and services serving the Pacific Asian elderly can begin to interact.
- To plan for a national conference of consumers, researchers, and service providers.

A National Advisory and Resource Committee (NARC) was established to assist the Project staff in carrying out the research objectives and serve as liaison between the Project and the Pacific Asian communities. It is composed of 15 members who represent the geographic and ethnic distribution of the Pacific Asian elderly across the United States.

NARC chairman is Donald Kazama of Seattle. Heading its three subcommittees are Dr. Wesley Ishikawa of San Diego, Research; Mrs. Alice Cea of San Francisco, Research Dissemination and Utilization; and Theodore Hussey of Honolulu, National Conference.

Comments or suggestions may be sent to PAERP, 2400 S. Western Avenue, Suite 206, Los Angeles, CA 90018. (213) 731-2461.

Natural Networks: Paths to Services

Cross-Cultural Study on Minority Aging

by Ramon Valle Ph.D.
Center on Aging
School of Social Work
San Diego State University

The Cross-Cultural Study of Minority Elders was an intensive study conducted from 1974-1976, which involved eight minority aged groups in San Diego, California. The study population numbered 638 respondents and included Black, Latino, American Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Guamanian and Samoan elders age 50 years or more. The study was funded by the Administration on Aging. It was conducted by researchers from the Center on Aging of the School of Social Work, San Diego State University.

The research had three principal objectives: (1) to trace the respective cultural patterns of the ethnically-varied study populations; (2) to delineate the respondents' outlooks toward formal services and networks of services; and (3) to test an alternative data gathering methodology.

Methodology

The overriding research intent was to obtain representation of ethnic life process and content within the larger San Diego environment. For this purpose, network sampling techniques were perfected and used in the study. A key ingredient to the total research effort was the maintaining of community consultation and interaction with varied constituencies from each of the ethnic minority groups throughout the life of the study. The coordinators for each ethnic group component were made responsible for maintaining this contact. The process was designed to allow continuous input from the community during the entire two-year period.

As assessed by the researchers, the benefits of this process far outweighed the time expenditure drawbacks. The continuous interaction facilitated obtaining the project's interviewers as well as the study subjects. Moreover, the maintenance of this ongoing contact at the point of termination of the study provided the project with a built-in dissemination network of interested individuals who could directly address the findings of the inquiry.

Access to Services

A key finding of the research centered on service delivery systems and how older persons from the populations studies gained access to them. In many instances older persons learned about agencies or programs

continued on next page

"Natural Networks" Photo by Greg Castillo

continued from page 9

through "natural networks" which existed within their communities. These "natural networks" usually consisted of family, friends, neighbors, or other individuals with whom the older person had a trusting relationship.

When an older person had a problem, he or she would often turn to someone from this network for assistance or advice. That person would then do one of three things: help the older person himself; refer the older person to some other trusted community person who might help him; or refer the older person to a trusted person within an agency who might help him.

An older person who had a problem was rarely referred to just an agency. The critical aspect of a successful referral was that it be to a particular person in the agency who was known to evidence "culturally appropriate behavior". That is, the older person was referred to someone who could be trusted to be culturally sensitive to the older person. For older Latinos, for example, the agency person would probably need to speak Spanish, know that an older Latino expects to be addressed in a formal, respectful manner, and know that the older person needs to be treated with dignity.

To reiterate, the most significant aspect of these naturalistic service delivery networks is that they are based on *relations between people*. A simple referral to an agency is not enough.

Intragroup Diversity

A second finding of the research was the very clear evidence of intragroup heterogeneity. Among the Japanese elderly, one has to consider not only the Issei (first generation) and the Nisei (second generation) but also the Kibi. These latter were elderly who had been born in the United States but returned to Japan for the major part of their youth. Many had been interned in Japan during World War II. It was evident that each of these groups had differing traditions and outlooks around issues affecting themselves as elderly.

Intragroup linguistic diversity was also very much in evidence. The Chinese population had to be interviewed, not only in Mandarin and Cantonese, but also in what has been termed the "fourth dialect".

The methodology itself was seen as another area of key findings. As tested in the San Diego study, the methodology is seen as having considerable utility for agencies serving the ethnic minority elderly groups. The interviewing techniques are readily adaptable to intake procedures. The study's community contact procedures can be easily used to facilitate agency outreach efforts to minority constituencies. And the methodology as a whole can be used to conduct cross-cultural community needs assessments.

The study report is an eight-monograph series which will be forthcoming through the San Diego State University, Campanile Press. Publication is scheduled for August 1977. The study is seen as providing the field of gerontology with a tested model for further research. An immediate next step will be validation of the methodological approach with statistically generalized populations in other locales.

MINORITY AGING ORGANIZATIONS

National Center on Black Aged
1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 811
Washington, D.C. 20020
(202) 785-8766
Executive Director—Dolores Davis Ph.D.

NCBA's purpose is to provide a comprehensive program of education, information dissemination, coordination, and consultative services to the public and private sectors.Their goal is to improve policies, programs, and the delivery of services to Black and low-income elderly. NCBA's research division has published papers on Demographic Profiles of Aged Blacks; Older Black Women and Social Security; Legislation affecting the Black elderly as adopted by the 94th Congress; Employment Needs and Programs for Older Workers, including Blacks and other minorities.

National Association for Spanish Speaking Elderly
(Asociacion Nacional Pro Personas Mayores)
3875 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 401
Los Angeles, California 90005
(213) 487-1922
Executive Director—Carmela Lacayo

1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 1021
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 466-3595
Administrative Coordinator—Andres Hernandez

NASSE is a national organization acting on behalf of the social service needs of Hispanic-speaking Senior Citizens. The Association works to inform the Hispanic Community of current legislation or existing programs, to encourage the recruitment and development of Hispanic professional manpower by universities, social welfare and public administration programs, and to testify before State and Federal committees. The Asociacion has been active in articulating the needs of the Hispanic-speaking elderly by testifying before State and Federal Committees; by making panel presentations at significant aging conferences, such as the Western Gerontological Society Conference and the Federal Council on Aging; and by encouraging research by Hispanic investigators. The Asociacion has also organized training seminars for potential minority sub-contractors.

California Center on Black Aged, Inc.
601 South Kinsley Drive
Los Angeles, California 90005
(213) 385-4221
President—Leon Harper

The California Center is a statewide focal point for a variety of activities in relationship to the Black elderly in the areas of training, advocacy, service delivery, technical assistance, and development of minority contractors and professionals. The Center also collects and disseminates information in reference to the needs of older Black persons.

Pacific/Asian Coalition
1760 The Alameda, Suite 210
San Jose, California 95126
(408) 295-7290
National Coordinator—Roy Hirabayashi

PAC is a national organization on behalf of the Pacific-Asian Americans. The Coalition functions as a resource clearinghouse and advocacy research coordination center. While their focus is not specifically on aging, the Coalition can provide aging contracts and resources to local areas. PAC publishes a monthly newsletter (PAC Memo) and regional conferences are held at various times.

Center on Aging
San Diego State University
School of Social Work
349 Cedar Street
San Diego, California 92101
(714) 235-6584
Director—E. Percil Stanford, Ph.D.
Coordinator—Shirley Lockery

The Center on Aging annually sponsors the *National Institutes on Minority Aging* to raise and discuss issues relevant to ethnic-minority older people. Staff members coordinate other short-term training for local, state, and national audiences. In addition, technical assistance and consultation to groups and agencies serving older people are ongoing through staff involvement in community activities.

National Chicano Aging Caucus on Research, Planning and Policy
c/o Andrus Gerontology Center
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California 90007
(213) 741-5158
Co-chairperson—Fernando Torres-Gil Ph.D.

The objectives of the Caucus are to establish dialogue between Chicano professionals involved in aging, to advocate and be aware of policy developments in aging, to support minority organizations involved in aging, and to develop research and information about Latino elderly. Members are practitioners, researchers, planners, and professionals.

National Indian Council on Aging
P.O. Box 2088
Albuquerque, N.M. 87103
(505) 766-2276
Executive Director—Juana Lyon

NICOA provides advocacy for Indians and Alaskan native elderly. The Council works to bring about remedial action in the areas of income, personal environment, legal problems, and special health problems including spiritual well-being, recreation, and legislation. NICOA publishes a newsletter: "The NICOA News", and a comprehensive report on the 1976 National Council will be published in August of 1977.

Photo by Greg Castillo.

Aging Across Cultures

by Deborah Newquist
Andrus Gerontology Center
University of Southern California

Diversity in aging is a major theme of the "Social and Cultural Contexts of Aging Project". For the past five years, researchers at the Andrus Gerontology Center of the University of Southern California have been examining the experience ot aging among a variety ot cultural groups here in the United States, as well as abroad. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation and under the direction of Dr. Vern Bengtson, the researchers are attempting to answer such questions as: How does the aging experience differ for older American Blacks, Anglos, Mexican-Americans and Jews? What can others in different societies teach us about the process of aging? How do policy-makers here in the U.S. perceive aged Americans, and are their perceptions accurate? What are the social policy implications of these research findings?

The Social and Cultural Contexts of Aging Project is composed of four components. The *community survey* examined life circumstances of 1,269 aging Blacks, Anglos and Mexican-Americans sampled from the greater Los Angeles area. The *decision-maker survey* explored the attitudes and perceptions about aging of 316 elected officials, agency administrators, service delivery personnel, aging advocates, and union and business leaders. The *anthropological studies* investigated the aging experience among the peoples of Tanzania, Yugoslavia, Mexico, and among Eastern European immigrant Jews in Venice, California, and immigrant Mexicans in East Los Angeles. The fourth component, the *research dissemination-utilization program,* seeks to facilitate the use of the project findings in policy-making related to aged Americans. They have recently published a policy report entitled, *Transportation: The Diverse Aged,* which is available through the Government Printing Office.

Another important feature of this project is the Community Research Planning Committee, comprised of representatives from the Black and Mexican-American

communities studied in the community survey. Throughout the duration of the project, this committee has provided input into all facets of the project's planning and implementation. Their significant involvement in the project, however, was not initially built into the organization. Concerned members of minority groups protested, calling attention to numerous problems which demanded immediate resolution if the research was to proceed. These early difficulties were resolved, but not without the researchers having learned several principles about conducting research in minority communities.

Need for Minority Good Will

Looking back over the project, Dr. Bengtson recognizes several issues which researchers need to consider if they plan to study minority communities. What follows are some of his reflections:

"First, community goodwill is absolutely essential if researchers want to study minority communities. Researchers need to establish contacts and communication linkages with the community they wish to study, prior to submission of their research proposal. Thus, in addition to reviewing the relevant scholarly literature in the area to be studied, researchers should include in their homework a review of the community situation as well. This can be facilitated by the development of a project advisory committee composed of representatives from the various communities which the researcher intends to study.

"Another consideration is the ethnic make-up of the research staff. Are minority persons included? If not, why? An ideal team would have a combination of minority and non-minority professionals. Of course this depends on the type of research. A cross-group study should have researchers representing several ethnic groups. If this is not possible because of the non-availability of minority professionals (which could be an excuse), then the project should build in a training component for minority students. This would reflect both minority input to the study, as well as the preparation of another cohort of minority professionals.

'Something in Return'

"Conducting research in minority communities also uncovers an ethical question which social scientists were never exposed to in their research methods courses—the ethics of bringing something of value back to the community in return for the valuable information gained from it. The 'something of value' you bring back to the community is knowledge and information which might be used to help the community. It simply has not occurred to many researchers in the past that the respondents in their study should get something tangible in the way of information in return for participating in the research.

"Also the issues of ethics and accountability are seen differently by those in the academic professions compared to community persons. The Community Research Planning Committee has enabled the Social and Cultural Contexts of Aging Project to go on, and so have the project's minority staff and students. Their input helped the project to focus on the process of the research, as well as on its products. Most researchers do not deal with the process aspects of research in terms of the several different reference groups that have an interest in the study.

"It is no longer possible for white academicians to conduct research in minority communities in the manner used in the 1940s, 50s or 60s. The seemingly uninvolved ivory tower approach will not work. Today, researchers who want to study minority communities should be prepared to spend a lot of time and energy in learning to understand the community itself, perhaps in the manner of the traditional ethnographer. They should make efforts to have their intentions understood, and they will have to spend time and effort to justify their findings. Some researchers may not be prepared to do this."

Dr. Bengtson discussed some of the findings from this research project. "The rule of thumb for sociologists is that 'things are not always as they appear'; the common sense reality we attribute to groups isn't necessarily true.

"This principle applies to the experience of aging within different cultures. For example a common stereotype about older Mexican-Americans is that they are firmly supported by a strong, extended family network. What this study has shown, however, is that only in a specialized sense is this true. The family is definitely a resource enjoyed by aged Mexican-Americans and Blacks who have kin. However, while the family is a psychological resource, it does not tend to be a service-provider resource. In fact, older Mexican-Americans expected less help from their family, and anticipated less help, than did older Anglos.

Pride in Survivorship

"Similarly, minority status may represent a personal resource often unseen by a practitioner or researcher. Pride in survivorship is particularly salient in the responses of aged Blacks, for instance. A lifetime of discrimination and survival may make a person more adaptive, resourceful and able to cope with problems in life than a person who has not experienced these things. Yet a person's outward appearance may not readily indicate this.

"Ethnicity may also be a resource for maintaining continuity in a person's life. Continuity of life patterns is of great importance to well-being, especially for the aged. Cultural traditions and rituals help to provide structure and the needed continuity to an older person's life."

Overall, these findings reveal that ethnicity can be a definite resource for older persons. Their cultural background can provide them with strength and support not always apparent to others. In turn, it appears that social policy responses intended to benefit older persons need to build upon the cultural resources that they already possess.

This study suggests that service provision at the local level should be geared to incorporate and accommodate the cultural values and orientations of the older persons to be served. One approach to service delivery will not work; all older persons are *not* alike.

Barriers To Service Use

by Duran Bell
University of California, Irvine

The following are excerpts from Chapter V, "Service Delivery to Black Elderly," in *Delivering Services to Elderly Members of Minority Groups: A Critical Review of the Literature*, by Duran Bell, Patricia Kasschau and Gail Zellman, The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, CA., R-1862-HEW, April, 1976.

What are the barriers to service utilization for minority elderly? What types of subtle cues by well-meaning service providers make the use of services difficult for certain groups of older people? An illustration would be the "routine procedures which constitute business as usual" that are generally designed by middle-class Anglos with their own values (moral, business, personal convenience, or whatever) foremost in mind, and not with consideration of the interests of potential consumers who may be minority persons (Sears and McConahay, *The Politics of Violence*, 1973).

A similar observation has been made concerning Mexican-Americans and other minority groups; they frequently find Anglo mannerisms and presuppositions discomforting and/or humiliating. The sources of humiliation are often quite subtle; physicians may prescribe special diets that are entirely too expensive for poor persons to maintain, or printed menus passed out by doctors and nurses may be inconsistent with Black culture and/or the abilities of poor patients to pay.

But it is not only the way the programs are designed that affect service utilization. The ethnicity of the personnel who carry out the programs can also affect whether or not an older minority person will utilize the program services. Anxiety and discomfort associated with contact with Anglo medical specialists may be one important reason for underutilization of services.

Besides barriers that inhibit utilization there are also disparities in eligibility that arise from differing characteristics of various minority groups, i.e., shorter life expectancies. It is a well established fact that Blacks have lower life expectancies than Anglos and hence fail to receive their fair share of Social Security benefits earned during their working lives. This is also true for Mexican-Americans and Indians.

However, it remains to be determined whether minority status in and of itself is contributory to lower life expectancy, or whether life expectancy is more affected by social and economic factors. Morbidity data suggest the dominant importance of SES or occupation, not race. On the other hand, Blacks have been limited historically to poorly paying occupations, and low income has been associated with lack of proper nutrition, poor housing, and lack of financial and physical access to medical care. At the moment, the only proposition deserving consideration is that low income workers (persons whose highest earnings fall below some threshold) should be allowed earlier eligibility, regardless of race.

Give up Stereotypes Look for Differences Within

by Miriam M. Orleans, Ph.D.
Bettina D. Kurowski, M.P.A.
School of Medicine
University of Colorado

Sometimes in our effort to attack what appears to all of us to be an injustice or a serious oversight, we puncture a stereotype and unwittingly create a new one. All of us know that the population called the "elderly" is grossly stereotypic. We have separated out the "poor elderly", the "medically-indigent elderly", and now we turn our attention to the "minority elderly". Sensitive observers realize the stereotypic "Black", "Cuban" or "Vietnamese" elderly have such varying life problems and access to resources that to amalgamate them for planning, research, legal or service purposes is thoughtless.

Our current research at the Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine, titled "Long-Term Care Alternatives of Aged Mexican-Americans" sponsored by the National Center for Health Services Research, is examining the differences in reported health status, living arrangements, financial resources and use of services among three populations of elderly Mexican-Americans in a rural, town, and city setting.

The differences are significant. Not only are their socio-economic statuses different, but their use of resources, perceptions of programs such as food stamps, and their customs, like visiting friends and family, reveal not only the distinctiveness of their culture but the variable problems requiring social and economic support.

We would have thought, for example, that the most isolated people are those without transportation, dispersed on small farm holdings in rural areas, not linked with the services of urban centers. We now think that this is not so. Transportation is not apparently the problem we had envisioned. The rural elderly have family and friends who help them. People in Denver indicated that they had more trouble in getting where they needed to go.

City people were better educated (in terms of years of schooling) than rural people, and more than half reported that they read English easily. On the other hand, our rural respondents were not any more adept at reading in Spanish than were the urban people. City people seemed to be bilingual , rural people not. Sending a well-constructed Spanish language pamphlet describing available programs to rural Mexican-American Coloradans may communicate very little.

The results are being analyzed now and we are surprised by many of our findings. The message is twofold to those of us engaged in research, service delivery, and planning: give up the stereotypes and look for the differences within.

POLICY QUESTIONS

Federal Agencies Open Doors To Minority Participation

by Fernando Torres-Gil
Andrus Gerontology Center
University of Southern California

Report on February 11-12, 1977 workshop in Washington, D.C. entitled "What Can the Federal Government Do to Enhance Access to and Provide Equitable Treatment for Minority Groups in the Field of Research on Aging?" Attending were Dr. Robert Butler, Director of the National Institute on Aging; Dr. Arthur Flemming, U.S. Commissioner on Aging, Administration on Aging; representatives from the National Institute on Mental Health and the Social Security Administration; representatives from the National Indian Council, La Asociacion Nacional Pro Personas Mayores, National Center on the Black Aged and Asian-American groups.

Who makes the decisions related to funding, training, research and programs?

How are groups historically denied political power to impact on these decisions?

These two critical issues that many minority groups have been raising in the last several years, particularly in the field of aging, were the central themes of the Februrary workshop. Given that the political processes in this country are affected in part by the influence and activities of special interest groups and their ability to have access to the appropriate political doors, various minority groups have questioned their lack of access to the decision-making arenas of the federal agencies on aging.

In the last several years it has increasingly been recognized that elderly Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and Indians suffer from multiple jeopardy: not only do they experience problems because of their minority status, but they also experience problems often associated with aging, such as health or income difficulties. Discrimination, cultural diversity, and language differences serve to exacerbate whatever problems the minority elderly may already have. In the provision of services, however, many programs have not been geared to reach bilingual or bicultural elderly due to insensitivity, ignorance, or disregard on the part of governmental officials, politicians, agency heads, and professionals.

The representatives of the minority elderly have attempted for some time to meet with the heads of the federal agencies on aging and develop mechanisms whereby they could have input into the manner in which funding is allocated, research is prioritized, training is provided and programs are developed, so that they might better serve the needs of the minority elderly.

The workshop of February 11-12 was a milestone in these attempts. It resulted in commitments by the federal agencies on aging to give priority to research on minority aging, and to set aside monies for this research. Of critical importance was the commitment to put minority group members on proposal review panels, and to establish a special proposal review panel composed of minorities. Further commitments were also made to hold future workshops to discuss issues related to training of minorities in aging.

The general feeling of all the participants was that positive steps had been taken to provide access to minority groups in the decision-making realms of the federal agencies on aging.

Much still remains to be done, however, and only time will tell if these federal agencies are serious about their commitments and about recognizing the need for real participation by Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and Indians. It is hoped that not only will government officials on the federal level recognize the needs of the minority elderly, but that other groups, such as academicians, professionals, and established aging organizations, will also recognize that these groups are culturally diverse, have unique problems, and must also be given the opportunity to participate in the gerontological endeavors of this country.

Non-Chronological Definitions of Aging: Policy Implications

By E. Percil Stanford, Ph.D.
Center on Aging
School of Social Work
San Diego State University

For centuries, aging and age have been accepted in non-chronological terms. Initially, there was little relationship between chronological age as we now know it and social expectations of roles for older persons. Political power and strength increased with advanced age. Currently, age is a major prohibitive factor in allowing many experienced persons to contribute to society. Consequently, there is considerable support for the elimination of chronological age barriers in hopes of stimulating broader participation and more appropriate and comprehensive use of services.

The history of legislation and fragmented policies related to aging have been based for too long on the chronological and biological concepts of aging. The task for researchers, legislators, planners, and policy developers is to address the issue of who is being excluded from the use of services and how reasonable guidelines, in policy terms, can be developed to include persons who are automatically excluded because of chronological age definitions.

Minorities Negatively Affected

Many problems associated with aging must be examined differentially for minority groups since there is reason to believe that these problems occur for some groups before the age of sixty.

Also it is significant that in 1970, according to the United States Bureau of Census, both the Native American and Mexican American had a life expectancy of less than 60 years of age, while the Black male life expectancy was 60.1 years. Hence, many of these people die before they are eligible for aging social services. Very little information is available on other groups since they are routinely listed as White or other.

It was not until the 1971 White House Conference on Aging that special attention was given to the needs and circumstances of the elderly Asian Americans, Blacks, Native Americans, and Hispanics. A common concern expressed in the sessions was that research and training about each ethnic group was urgently needed if a developing national policy on aging was to be representative of older Americans.

Research on cultural patterns in aging and their impact on individuals or sub-groups holds the potential for revealing clues for the development of formal non-chronological definitions of aged. These definitions will facilitate identification of specific populations which may currently be excluded from services or benefits.

Moreover, criteria for defining and identifying non-chronological aging are needed and must be developed in order to study the unique social, cultural, psychological, and economic aspects of a significant number of sub-populations. Appropriate knowledge based on alternative definitions of aging is mandatory for the formulation of policy and the planning of programs which provide equal access to resources for older Americans.

Redefine Age

There is general agreement that our knowledge of non-chronological definitions of aging is scanty at best. Most agree that chronological age is a convenient and standardized measure, but that it fails to reflect the multidimensional characteristics displayed by elderly individuals. The literature suggests that there is a need to redefine age by examining physical, mental, and social factors in a longitudinal study.

Palmore (1969) was able to identify significant predictors of longevity for various age, sex, and race categories. A later aspect of this study showed that factors such as "physical mobility, education, occupation, and continued employment were significantly related to longevity" (Palmore and Stone, 1973). Social, cultural, psychological, and economic variables would therefore appear to be of considerable importance in explaining the manifestations of aging.

More recently, a study by the National Council on Aging actually emphasized the shift away from chronological age by demonstrating its ineffectiveness in comparison to functional factors utilized in hiring and promotional selections (Quirk and Skinner, 1974). *The Gerontologist* has presented a series of articles (Havighurst, 1971) which emphasize perceptions of aging, some of which question the value of chronological age.

Functional Age Concept

Dissatisfaction with chronological age (Schaie and Gribbin, 1975, p. 70) as the independent variable in gerontological studies have led to an examination of the concept of functional age. The concept of functional age states that individuals age at different rates along different dimensions and that an estimate of an individual's functional age can be made along the lines of the old mental age concept (Birren, J., 1959).

Data based upon application of the functional age concept to psychological variables have been presented for the measurement of social age (Rose, C.L., 1972), abilities and personality (Fozard, John, 1972), and for interpersonal and self-concept variables (Kastenbaum, et al, 1972). The functional age concept requires the assumption of the decrement model of aging and

consequently may be inappropriate for many psychological variables over the major portion of the adult life span.

After one reviews the data on self-conception and age identification, the need for refined information required to develop a definition of aging in terms of social, psychological, and economic functioning rather than mere chronology is evident. This will undoubtedly necessitate operationalizing the term "age" in a way that allows us to analyze socio-psychological and economic variables. It is more than reasonable to expect that knowledge of various patterns of age identification may provide significant inputs for predicting the success of programs generally, or at least for identifying segments of the older population for whom special program emphasis will be necessary.

Vast Policy Implications

The question of whether to use non-chronological definitions of age is not addressed more thoroughly because of the vast policy implications. The aging field has been criticized for not having well-developed social policies, but should an attempt be made to define age non-chronologically, policies would be even more difficult to formulate.

The question remains, "Will there be different eligibility criteria for different sub-populations?" If so, access to services could be inequitable. Although this may be important to question, it cannot determine whether decision-makers continue with the development of policy on non-chronological aspects of aging. Exceptions will have to be spelled out and acted upon in accordance with well-thought-out regulations and guidelines. Ultimately, using chronological age as a secondary factor could benefit persons other than those identified with the sub-population groups.

The eligibility age of 65 for receiving Social Security benefits was arbitrarily set over 30 years ago. It may now be reasonable to move away from chronological age as a determinant for services and benefits, to the use of functional age, with additional consideration of social and economic factors.

References

1. Birren, J.E. (ed.), "Principles of Research on Aging." *Handbook of Aging and the Individual*, pp. 3-42, 1959.
2. Fozard, J.L., "Predicting Age in Adult Years from Psychological Assessments of Abilities and Personality." *Aging and Human Development*, 3, pp. 175-182, 1972.
3. Havighurst, R., "Research Designs and Proposals in Applied Social Gerontology: Third Report, 1971." *The Gerontologist*, 11:4, Part II, pp. 60-108, 1971.
4. Kastenbaum, R., Derbin, V., Sabatini, P., and Artt, S., "The Aging of Me: Toward Personal and Interpersonal Definitions of Functional Aging." *Aging and Human Development*, 3, pp. 197-212, 1972.
5. Palmore, E., "Predicting Longevity: A Follow-Up Controlling for Age." *The Gerontologist*, 9:4, pp. 247-250, 1969.
6. Palmore, E. and Stone, V., "Predictors of Longevity: A Follow-Up of the Aged in Chapel Hill," *The Gerontologist*, 13:1, pp. 88-90, 1973.
7. Quirk, D.A. and Skinner, J., "IHCS: Physical Capacity, Age and Employment." *Perspectives on Aging*, 3:1, pp. 18-22, 1974.
8. Rose, C.L., "Measurement of Social Age." *Aging and Human Development*, 3, p. 153, 1972.
9. Schaie, K.W., and Gribbin, K., "Adult Development and Aging." *Annual Review of Psychology*, pp. 65-96, 1975.

Interview With Carnella Barnes, a WGS Pioneer

By Deborah Newquist

Carnella Barnes is old and Black. She is retired, but hardly inactive. Throughout her life she has served as the President of the National Christian Youth Movement; the National Field Secretary for the United Christian Missionary Society; the Assistant Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Senior Citizens Affairs; and upon her retirement was the Program Consultant for the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging. Mrs. Barnes is responsible for having organized the first county-wide Older American's Recognition Day and the first observance of Senior Citizens of Black History Week. In addition, Carnella Barnes was a pioneer in WGS, serving as its second Secretary-Treasurer from 1965-1968. Presently Mrs. Barnes is the President of International Christian Women's Fellowship-Christian Church, and a Board Member of the National Council of Churches.

Editor: *Carnella, could you tell me a little about yourself and your background?*

Barnes: I grew up in rural Mississippi in a close-knit family. I am still impressed with the love my family had for me. I have felt supported by them all of my life.

I was the last of eight children. My mother died when I was four and my father raised me.

From the first grade on I went to a mission school. When I was about fourteen I went to a boarding school. I worked my way through high school and junior college performing various jobs: processing milk from the school's farm; churning butter by hand; working as a maid in the boys' dormitory; and canning fruits and vegetables for the school.

Editor: *Was your experience unusual? Did many other Black children go to private schools?*

Barnes: Boarding schools were the chief places for Blacks in Mississippi to receive an education. Public schools for Blacks were very limited and only open four months of the year, compared to private schools which were open for nine months of the year.

I think the determining factor in who went to private schools vs. public schools was largely economic. My father paid my tuition for the private school, sometimes paying in produce rather than cash.

The larger percentage of Black children went to public schools and a smaller number went to private schools. Most of the private schools were church-sponsored in the South.

Editor: *You mentioned the church played an important role in the education of Black children in the South years ago. What role does the church play in the lives of older Blacks today?*

Carnella Barnes

Barnes: The church has played and continues to play a tremendous role. The church is *the one institution* to which older Blacks turn and where we have found fellowship, and to which we give our allegiance.

During the time of slavery, faith in a Supreme Being was the one thing to which Blacks did cling. Religion, historically, has been meaningful in the lives of Black persons.

The church is the primary societal institution over which Blacks have had supervision, decision-making power, and administrative opportunities. We have charted its course, and really it is the only place in which we have felt freedom. Blacks have found faith, social support, Christian nurturance, and recreation through the church. The church has contributed a great deal to human survival.

Today the church is getting more involved in the total community. Through this means, avenues are opening for older Blacks to participate more in the total society. The church is a crucial intermediary for that.

Editor: *What about the church in relationship to service delivery to older Blacks?*

Barnes: Service delivery to older Blacks needs to be linked with the church. If the church is not involved, many older Blacks are not reached with community services. Largely, outreach efforts should go through the church for more effectiveness.

Protestant churches are the most popular with Blacks, except in some communities in Louisiana which have large Catholic populations. I would say the primary support for older Blacks is our family, the church, and our friends, in that order.

Editor: *Carnella, what problems do you see in being an older, Black person?*

Barnes: Well, I'm used to working in an integrated environment with people of diverse backgrounds, so I tend to think of myself more as a person than as a Black person. I look on problems as a person more than as a Black person.

Blacks and whites have historically been separated in so many areas of their lives — schools, churches, etc. We haven't had the opportunities to get to know each other as persons and friends. As an older Black I wonder what my feelings would be about living in an integrated nursing home. Personally I wouldn't feel a barrier in an integrated home in which I had friends and acquaintances. For some other older Blacks, I think this might not be so. I think they might feel a barrier. Actually, though, it depends on the individual.

Another problem which I see for older Blacks is economic. We didn't have the job opportunities when we were younger which allowed us opportunities to save for our later years. From an economic base many older Blacks are not as secure financially because of our social history.

As an older black, I wonder what my feelings would be about living in an integrated nursing home.

This impacts on other areas of our lives related to income, for example, insurance and health.

Also many older Blacks did not have many educational opportunities when we were younger. This affects us in old age. Our lack of educational opportunities negatively affected our job opportunities throughout our lives. Racial discrimination affected educational and job opportunities for Blacks in the past. This in turn affected our incomes, which in turn affected our health, diet, all kinds of areas, throughout our lives.

Many older Blacks also have transportation problems. Many didn't learn to drive. Some never had the opportunity to learn. Some didn't have the need to learn because they lived in rural areas or areas where they didn't need to drive because of family or community support. I myself didn't learn to drive until I was over 30.

Primary support for older Blacks is our family, the church, and friends.

Editor: *A recent study found that a larger percentage of older Blacks between the ages of 60 and 74 live alone compared to older Mexican-Americans or Whites. Could you please talk about that a little?*

Barnes: Is that true? I'm surprised. Well, the reason that I would give is that those Blacks who live alone may be doing so because they want to free their children. They don't want to be a burden to their children. They are probably in touch with their children, see them and are in communication with them, but they don't want to be an economic burden, so they instead go it alone and manage.

Editor: *Is there anything else we haven't discussed which you would like to talk about?*

Barnes: I'd just like to say that as an older Black I've had a very full life. I have had many hard times and rough experiences, and these have contributed to my life as well as the good times have. I see problems as stepping stones to cross over. They don't depress me.

I'm thankful that I've lived long enough to become an older person. Actually, even though I'm retired I'm so busy I haven't noticed much difference from when I was working. I never finish. There are so many purposeful activities in which to get involved.

Service Programs

Dancing is one of the most popular activities. Photo by Charles Amor

Multi-Cultures, Varied Programming

Charles Amor
Hawaii State Senior Center
Honolulu, Hawaii

Diverse programming to meet a range of cultural backgrounds is a necessity for the Hawaii State Senior Center. Its service area of urban Honolulu is contiguous with the model city boundaries; many of the residents, (20%), are sixty years and over, have low incomes and minimal educations. Many formerly worked in low-paying agricultural jobs.

In this area, each ethnic group is a minority: Japanese, Caucasian, Chinese, Filipino, Okinawan, Hawaiian and Koreans. Over 65% were born in a foreign country and therefore special attention is needed to facilitate services for these persons; many speak only their native language. Programming, to be successful, must reflect the multiplicity of cultures. Each day activities for a particular group are scheduled. On Mondays, Japanese activities dominate. Participants plan their own projects and have their own speakers. Art classes, dancing, calligraphy, and conversational Japanese are offered. Tuesdays, Hawaiian activities provide the theme for the day; Wednesdays, Samoan, and Thursdays, Okinawan. This last group represents the largest population, over 300 members. These participants enjoy folk dancing, so ample time is set aside for that activity, as well as physical fitness, movies, ceramics and carpentry. Chinese individuals congregate at the center on Fridays for T'ai Chi, ballroom dancing, mandarin social events and citizenship classes. Korean and Caucasian participants also use the center that day. Filipino events keep the center busy and active on Saturdays. Songs and dances from the Phillipines, and cultural activities provide entertainment and an opportunity to retain native skills. An international kitchen provides three large chinese woks and a cook who caters to all ethnic groups.

Overall goals provide for the participation of older people in the development and evaluation of services and the building of a leadership structure composed of bilingual members.

As a community service, each club within the center adopts a hospital or care home to visit. Many groups perform native dances for nursing homes, day care centers, and at public events, like the State Fair.

The Center served 2,200 enrolled members and hosted more than 8,000 visitors during the past year. It has an average daily attendance of about 250 and relies on participant involvement in decision-making and heavy volunteer output to accomplish the 54 different activities each week. Volunteers, working in conjunction with caseworkers, are instrumental in identifying older people in need of assistance and encouraging them to participate in center activities. These volunteers are invaluable in serving as advocates for their own ethnic group, especially with mono-lingual individuals. Their success is validated by the fact that most new participants to the center are personally referred rather than through agency referral.

First established as an Administration on Aging Title III project, the center is now the only State-funded senior center. It operates under the University of Hawaii. The diversity of its programming and the community-oriented participants are testimony to the success of this program.

Multi-lingual staff makes the visitor feel at ease.

Employment Program Crosses Cultural Barriers

by Clarice Luna Parashis
Council on Aging of Santa Clara County
San Jose, California

Program design and cross-cultural outreach are two of the factors which contribute heavily to the success of the seniors' employment program in Santa Clara County, California.

During the nine months of its existence, the Senior Community Service Project (SCSP) has successfully placed in job-training positions such ethnic minorities as Mexican-American, Filipino-American, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Japanese, and American Samoan.

The training project, with 67% ethnic minority participation, is funded under Title IX of the Older Americans Act. It is administered by the National Council on Aging and the Council on Aging of Santa Clara County, the local AAA.

Design of the program includes bilingual and bicultural staff sensitive to the needs of the particular group involved. SCSP administrative staff is also Title IX enrollees, with extensive knowledge of local community resources.

Both the program coordinator and administrative aide know the idiosyncratic characteristics of local agencies and can easily recruit and match enrollees to the appropriate private nonprofit host agencies.

INFORMAL RECRUITMENT

Outreach and recruitment are done through use of ethnic language media, direct contact with the recognized neighborhood leaders, with visits to Senior Centers, and wherever special ethnic groups congregate. The program is explained in small gatherings of no more than 10 or 12 persons. This allows for immediate personal response to questions and an opportunity to assure the elders of our sincere desire to involve them in the program.

Once in the job-training program, enrollees often serve as recruiters. If anyone approaches them expressing curiosity or interest in participating, the enrollee makes arrangements for the interested person to visit the office in order to complete the transaction.

This first visit is very important, because it sets the tone of the relationship with SCSP staff and seniors. Careful attention is given to make the visitor feel completely at ease. If the multi-lingual SCSP staff cannot speak the particular language of the applicant, arrangements are made in advance for an interpreter to be present. Interpreters have been used successfully also during training sessions.

Non-English speaking enrollees are placed in agencies that predominately serve seniors with the same cultural background.

OLDER NETWORK

There is at least one senior trainee in each of the 15 municipalities in Santa Clara County. They serve as part of a large network of older persons who share and disseminate information between cities and SCSP.

During the first two weeks of June, 1977, nine enrollees were placed in permanent, full-time unsubsidized jobs. Three enrollees were ethnic minority members. This again demonstrates that ethnic minority older persons do participate in employment programs.

Integrating a Community Center

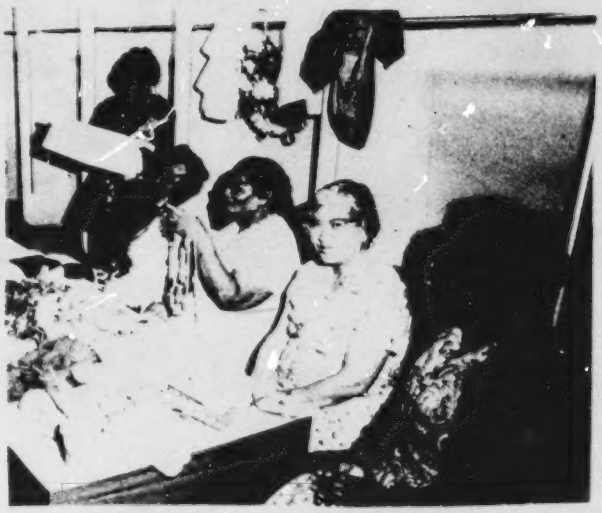
by Nancy Gorshe, Planner
Region V, Area Agency on Aging
Tacoma, Washington

A condition of "benign neglect" of inner city aged turned into a successful city-backed project in Tacoma. It began when a group called the City Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc. recognized the area's problem as an opportunity to serve, and established the Central Area Senior Citizens Center.

In 1971 there were 3,342 senior citizens, 60 years of age and over, the majority at or below the poverty level, living within the 22 square blocks comprising Hilltop Area. About 1,500, or 42%, were Blacks.

Although the county had 11 senior centers, none were in the Hilltop Area. A lack of transportation kept Hilltop seniors from using social services outside their area, and nothing existed within it. The seniors were withdrawn, depressed, frustrated and easy prey to physical and mental illnesses.

Mrs. Bertie Edwards, president of the City Association of Colored Women's Club alerted her members to the grave problem in 1971. She recalls, "Hilltop Area was filled with older people of all races who lived alone in furnished rooms or tiny apartments. They had no money nor transportation to go anywhere, and many of them were ailing, lame, or in wheelchairs, so it was difficult for them to get about. Many seldom cooked balanced meals for themselves. They lived dreary lives which we hoped to make brighter."



Crafts fair attracts a variety of interested buyers and sellers.

Commissioner Stortini receives a trophy after winning a bowling championship.

Husbands Enlisted

The Association's new clubhouse, located almost in the center of the Hilltop Area, was ideal for a senior citizen center. In May, 1971, the clubwomen opened the Central Area Senior Citizen Center for one day a week, with each club member contributing financially toward the expenses. They provided a free, hot, balanced mid-day meal for the seniors. Husbands helped pick up the seniors and deliver them back to their rooms or apartments.

As word about the center spread, attendance grew each week, but not by the black elderly. Although they numbered 42% of the Hilltop population, only 10% of the total Blacks participated. It was evident that the program was not attracting them.

Mrs. Edwards' group launched an all out campaign to enroll more Blacks in the Center's program.

Membership rosters of the neighboring Black churches were checked for their senior citizens. A corps of volunteers went door-to-door to explain the Center's program and purpose. People on the street were told of the program.

At the same time, the sponsors diversified their programs to appeal to varied racial, cultural, and educational levels. Aid was received from such sources as the city library, Red Cross, schools, and the Social Security Office.

The sponsoring club women searched the local newspapers for notices of the appearances of visiting entertainers — for example, "Up With People" and Andre Crouch — and asked them to do complimentary performances for the seniors. They brought in skits, dances, and musical groups from schools. They invited the governor, the mayor and other officials to join the seniors at lunch.

Senior Trips

Soliciting donations from churches, they took the seniors on tours to such places as the governor's residence, the state capitol where they were recognized from the Senate floor, to McChord Air Field where they toured a fighter plane, and to Canada, which was the first chance many of them had to visit a foreign country.

As for arts and crafts, many of the senior women had been seamstresses and the men handy with carpenter tools at home, so working with their own hands was not a threat to them. Otherwise, to introduce hobbies without suitable preparation might have been difficult because many had had little previous opportunity to do arts and crafts.

Mrs. Edwards' group found a volunteer who could teach all kinds of crafts using familiar objects: egg cartons (they made flowers from them), meat trays (backdrops for paintings), collages from broken bottles — about 50 different creative products. The seniors' self-esteem rose with the realization that they could create something beautiful out of such familiar objects.

Now the seniors were vitally involved, and those who came were recruiting others. Doctors began to send some of their elder patients to the Center; the Department of Social Health Services referred clients; nursing homes were another source referral to the Center. Those of us working at the Center knew nothing at that time about technical terms such as "outreach", "referral", and "feedback", but we were doing it.

Craft Sales

As time went on, the craft objects became more and more refined and a market for them was created. The seniors started selling their products in order to raise funds to buy more raw materials.

In November of that first year, Model Cities took over funding of the senior citizen center and expanded the program from one to five days a week. A bit later, two mini-vans were assigned to the center in order to transport the seniors to and from their homes.

We knew nothing about "outreach", "referral", and "feedback", but we were doing it.

In January, 1974, the city of Tacoma took the senior citizen program from Model Cities and placed it under the city's Department of Human Development. Having outgrown the Association's clubhouse, the city moved it to Bekin Center, a larger building equipped and staffed especially for providing social services for seniors.

Mrs. Bertie Edwards was hired by the city and is now director of all senior programs.

Self-Supporting Store

As for the arts and crafts program, it has expanded into a store. The women have expanded their amateur skills of home sewing to make beautiful quilts, aprons, dresses, and other articles, using sewing machines donated to the Center.

The men's carpentry skills have enabled them to create beautiful wood-framed mirrors for wall hangings, shelves, candleholders, and children's toys. The store supports itself and some of the articles are on consignment from their senior artisans. Newcomers are welcome and taught the skills so that the crafts rooms afford socialization and stimulation as well as expanding creativity.

Once a year the city recognizes Senior Aware Day with an open house at Bekin Center. Everybody shows up for this special event. The city is justifiably proud of its commitment. Out of general revenue sharing funds, the city is now adding seven new vans to the current five.

Today the participation of blacks attending the Center almost equals their population percentage in the Hilltop Area, reflecting an integration into the total community.

Celebrating a birthday or anniversary, the folks enjoy a party.

NATIVE AMERICAN CUSTOMS BEAR ON SERVICE DELIVERY

by Kenneth Martin
Office of Native American Programs
Poplar, Montana

The traditional and cultural legacy of the Assiniboine and Sioux people plays an important role in service delivery approaches to these Indian elderly on their reservations.

Assiniboine and Sioux people, raised on the principle of freely giving and receiving, obviously have a different attitude toward social services than do people raised on the principle of self-worth based on the work ethic. To the Indian, pride is inherited from the total tribe and therefore shared by the total tribe. They are proud of each member and each member knows it; their collective sense of worth must be preserved.

Tradition dictates the concept of sharing as being manifest, with visitors to households being fed and well taken care of. As with all gregarious people, personal cost is the least concern. Self-esteem is based on the ability to help others, and not based on what one has acquired. The elderly Indian takes pride in caring for and giving advice to younger people of the tribe. Old age in the tribal structure becomes synonymous with wisdom.

In contrast, white society emphasizes competition and individual accomplishment measured by material acquisitions. Non-Indians are taught that pride is earned through individual competition and effort. If they can no longer work and consider themselves burdens on both family and society, their sense of pride and respect are jeopardized.

Responsibility for their care may fall first on family and then may be shifted to social services. Old age in this structure becomes synonymous with obligation.

Today, traditional Indian values have been eroded to the extent that existence is dictated by economics. Indigent Indians must depend upon social services that for them are tinged with shame; this feeling is exacerbated by societal ignorance, misunderstanding, and stereotyping.

The Indians' belief in freely giving makes traditional approaches to service delivery incompatible with their basic values. One example is the certification process for Food Stamps. The process now seems inappropriate to tribal life. Income eligibility is no problem; it is widely accepted that the average annual family income on the reservation, as recently as 1973, was approximately $2,057, considerably below the national poverty level. However, in order to be certified, the local welfare office requires further detailed documentation that is not relevant to life on a reservation, and subjects older Indians to other negative experiences associated with "welfare".

Another example of misunderstanding based on ignorance relates to system of per capita payments to individual Indians as a share of tribal revenue (a total of $205 per individual in 1977). Because the tribe is under the trust authority of the Federal government, the payments are made on U.S. Treasury checks. This gives merchants and social service personnel the erroneous impression that the Indians are receiving federal welfare. It is important to stress that no Indian receives money from the govenment simply because of ethnic origin.

These kinds of stereotypes, which reflect a lack of understanding of tribal lifestyle, hamper the delivery of services to the Indian elderly. Moreover, traditional values inhibit the Indians' own ability to receive and use social services.

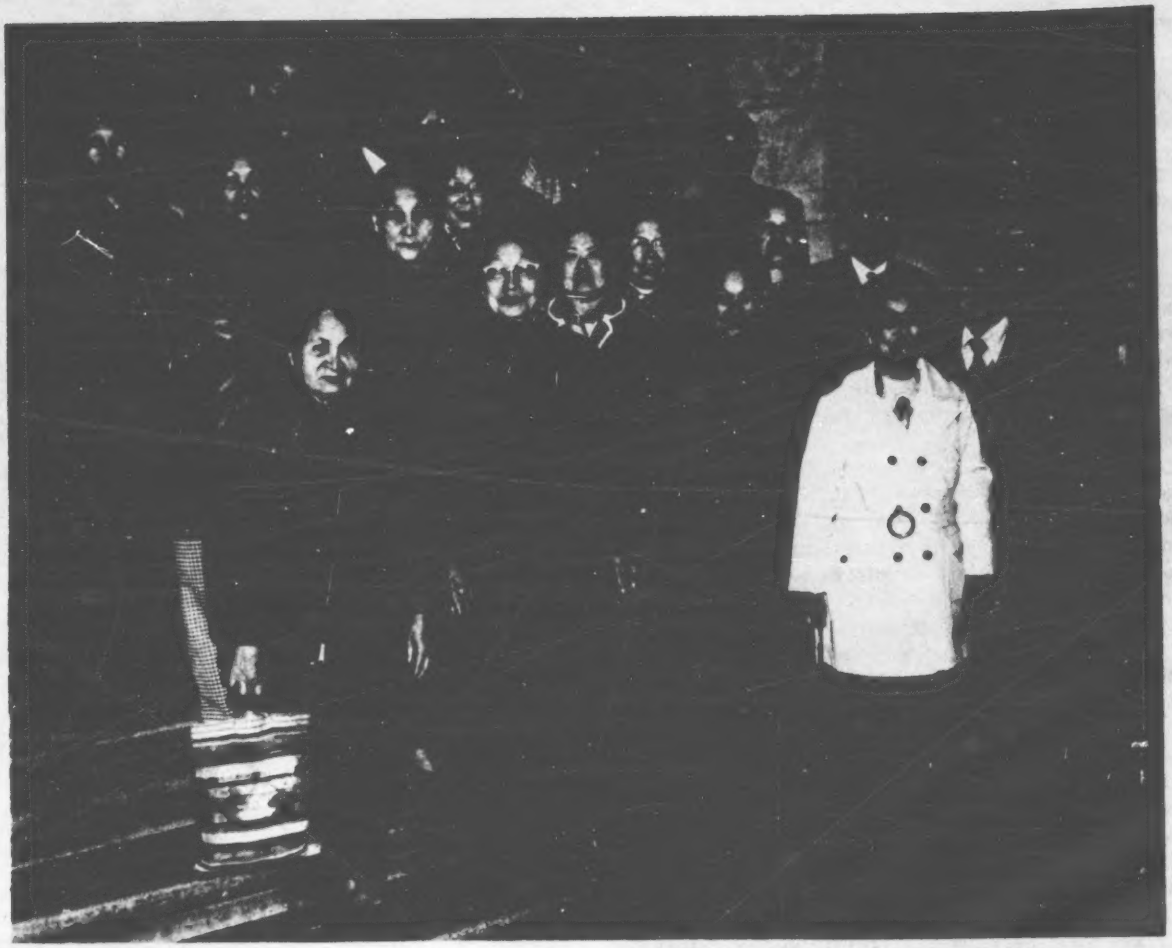
Self-Help For The Elderly

By Alan S. Wong
Chinatown, San Francisco

Self-Help for the Elderly came into being during the struggle for the "maximum feasible participation of the poor" in the "War on Poverty" era of the 60s. S.H.E. began as a delegate agency of the San Francisco Economic Opportunity Council funded by OEO. The non-profit agency early-on adopted a combination of being an advocate, a middleman, and an age-based group agency.

From the beginning, a multi-ethnic staff was hired to conduct an outreach program to the elderly Chinese, Filipinos, and Italians who tended to be very suspicious of government people, based on their experience with immigration authorities. From this experience, we learned that an elderly person in a poverty situation has a despairing or fatalistic outlook of his or her circumstances and is not likely to perceive participation in an organization as a profitable use of time or energy.

The problems of poverty, health, and inadequate housing that many elderly faced led the staff to seek



Members of Self-Help Project of Chinatown, San Francisco, join together for a group portrait.

solutions such as government financial assistance, improved health services, and public or subsidized housing. Some of the problems could be solved by getting these resources to the people and providing interpretation. Other problems were more complex and required greater participation in the political process, such as organizing, speaking up at public hearings, and influencing the government to change some of its policies, practices, and allocations.

In order to induce participation, we developed a combined program of providing direct services, education, and advocacy. Slowly we built up an image as an agency that interacted with and articulated effectively the needs of the elderly poor (predominantly Chinese and Filipino). Being knowledgeable of cultural traits, e.g., conflict resolution practices, attitude towards government, was necessary and helpful during this time.

We went through years of frustration with limited OEO funds and had to learn how to seek funds from the private sector and other government sources.

For example, with a small amount of money from a private source, we began our Inter-Ethnic Hot Meals Congregate program. From this modest beginning, we now administer seven meal sites funded through Title VII of the Older Americans Act. Participants in these seven meal sites represent many ethnic groups.

We have a small contract from the San Francisco Commission on Aging to conduct outreach functions and meal-site support services to the participants of the Title VII meals program. Efforts to get training and employment programs for older workers met with resistance from Department of Labor programs which were only concerned with youth and young adult employment. After having a request turned down by the old Concentrated Employment Program, Self-Help got San Francisco Community College to provide a teacher for a housekeeping training class for older women who spoke no English. Staff recruited the students, located jobs, and placed 95% of the students. Encouraged by this success, we obtained a grant from the Catholic Conference's Campaign for Human Development to continue and expand the "Ding Ho" (Top Notch) Housekeeping program. Currently, this program has expanded into a training program for workers with CETA funds through the Mayor's Manpower Council. We expanded from housekeeping and added bookkeeping, home health aide, and home repair classes.

continued on next page

continued from page 25

Gradually, we found more and more people under 55 years of age were coming to our agency. Sometimes they had the same problems as the elderly: could not find employment because of their age, in poor health, or isolated because other family members had moved away or died. Other times the younger people had simply been referred by an elderly person who knew us.

Recognizing the need to provide services to middle-aged individuals, particularly heads-of-household caught in the recession, and to the large group of Chinese-Vietnamese refugees in the community, United Way of the Bay Area funded our "Mid-Stream" project and also currently partially funds our administrative cost.

United Airlines, the American Red Cross, and the Mayor's Youth Fund assisted us in developing our youth and elderly recreational program. This exciting program reinforces our cultural values of younger people showing respect for the elderly through their making nursing home and public housing visits and providing recreational activities for them.

The Commission on Aging very recently contracted with us for a weekend program consisting of recreation, visits to rooming houses, and a fishing program.

Throughout these years of uphill struggles we have concentrated on hiring staff that reflected the various Chinese and Filipino dialects spoken. We have also placed emphasis on hiring older workers. Currently, we have a full-time 84-year-old social worker, an 82-year-old community aide plus many other staff past 65 working on a part-time basis. Our staff is multi- ethnic, both female and male.

We have been fairly successful in developing the membership on our board of directors so that over 50% of the 15 members are recipients of the programs.

At each of our Title VII meal sites, we have a site council where the participants are able to give advice on the program. From each of the seven sites, council members are elected to serve on a council.

In the last 10 years we have helped to develop indigenous leadership among the elderly themselves and have enabled a good number to speak out in public of their concerns and in their native dialect.

Simultaneously, we have had to develop the staff's skills and sensitivity to working with the elderly poor,often through involving the elderly themselves as resource persons. Training is conducted on-the-job as well as in classroom and workshop situations.

The effectiveness of this agency is due largely to a deep commitment of staff members and volunteers who cultivate a person-to-person relationship and often substitute as a surrogate family for many elderly who have none.

These factors helped develop trust among the clients, whose comments of praise and demand for increasing services are our best public relations and demonstration of effectiveness.

Recreation Planning for the Black Elderly

by Edwin D. Cuington
Administrator, Oak Center Towers
Oakland, California

Oak Center Towers, sponsored by Episcopal Homes Foundation, is a predominately Black Housing Project for the low- and moderate-income elderly, located in West Oakland, CA.

The work-and-earn lifestyle of most Black elderly individuals does not include the concept of group recreational activities. This, plus the 20-year age span of our residents (mainly from 65 to 85), had to be taken into consideration when we approached the concept of involving them in social and recreational activities.

One cannot develop a successful program for the Black elderly without a fundamental understanding of their past deprivations and sufferings.

In 1975, the administrator of Oak Center Towers and 27 of its residents met to discuss the needs and desires of the many elderly in the minority population. To accomplish this end, several objectives were listed:

- Use a multi-service program approach rather than focus on recreation alone.
- Jointly sponsor and support the various senior citizen, housing and health agencies and organizations. This is a basic way to develop a coordinated network of interagency cooperation.
- Provide outreach programs and services which serve the community at large as well as project residents. Interaction between them provides both with benefits while also developing a positive community image for the project.
- Place priority on those service programs which may be most beneficial to the Black elderly.
- Avoid the "island approach" in serving the Black elderly, as it is no longer a financially- or socially-acceptable concept.
- Recognize an integrated pattern of these objectives as they relate to the objectives of the facility.
- Take into consideration the fact that the resident population in general is less well, mentally and physically, than a similar group of individuals functioning outside the facility.
- Establish a progressive center that will attempt to integrate the resident into the community rather than isolate him from the community.

To encourage participation, small groups were organized consisting of people from the community and the facility with similar interests. In these groups, we stressed interpersonal relationships, leader-member relationships while helping them to achieve a socializing experience.

Through active participation in programs, rather than programs put on for the "dear little old people", the older Black individual feels accepted, thereby acquiring status. This results in a sense of belonging and a feeling of being useful, necessary for human being of any age or race.

CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUED BY NAVAJO FOSTER GRANDPARENTS

by Percy Deal, Director
Office of Navajo Economic Opportunity
Fort Defiance, Arizona

A chance to pass on native Indian traditions underlies a Navajo Foster Grandparent Program. This unusual program operates out of 27 work sites covering the 25,000 square miles of the Navajo Indian Reservation in western United States.

Through the program, Navajo elders aged 60 and over are given opportunities to play supportive, person-to-person roles with youths away from home who have special needs, while they simultaneously transmit traditional value systems, beliefs, behaviors and legends.

The Navajo elders have always assumed roles of supporters and cultural transmitters within the tribal social structure. But there exists a difference between yesterday and the present. Whereas in the past, it was just the young members of the family who benefitted, today many other youths who would otherwise be deprived of this rich knowledge of their heritage are receiving it through the Navajo Foster Grandparent Program. Conversely, the elder Navajos benefit from the shared experience.

The Foster Grandparents battle many miles of dusty roads to serve in three types of settings: boarding schools for young Navajos from the ages of five to fifteen who are often away from their parents for an entire school year; pediatric wards of hospitals; and institutions for physically, emotionally and mentally handicapped youngsters.

Rites of Passage

The female Grandparents are responsible for the young girls' "rites of passage" to womanhood—showing the girls how to care for their hair, face and bodies; how to prepare meals; how to care for children; and how to be good homemakers and wives. A special ceremony signals passage into womanhood.

The male Grandparent teaches youngsters everyday songs, special ceremonial songs and games tied to the seasons, and stories, myths and legends that reflect Indians' closeness to nature and the seasons. They teach the art of making moccasins and other leather crafts.

While the youngsters learn the Navajo vocabulary, the older people simultaneously learn English, so there is a bilingual exchange.

In attempting to understand the problems involved in operating the program, one must be aware that the Navajo Indian Reservation represents an area encompassing Arizona, New Mexico and Utah: ten counties and three federal regions, i.e.., large geographical spread and diverse situations.

What is Stipend?

Recruitment of Grandparents was difficult at first for the sponsoring Office of Navajo Economic Opportunity (ONEO). The purpose of the agency is to promote socio-economic self-sufficiency. Though stipend is included in the program, there is no word in the Navajo vocabulary to explain this concept. Naturally, there was widespread misunderstanding and reluctance to participate.

After five years, the majority are still working.

The ONEO decided that one solution was to recruit mainly by word of mouth—friend telling friend. They also used bulletin boards at trading posts, in hospital waiting rooms, social security and social service offices, and other meeting places. Many speeches were made at chapter meetings to advise Indians of the program.

Five years later, a majority of the original Grandparents are still working, showing the strong dedication and gratification of those involved.

The program is funded by ACTION and staffed by five people trained in program management and counseling techniques.

The Foster Grandparent program provides important incentives to participants. A sense of worth, a rekindled interest in their rich heritage by the younger generation, and the added income from the stipends to Grandparents contribute to the welfare of the elders and youth and promote Navajo self-sufficiency.

NEXT ISSUE: Rural Elderly

Photo by Lupe Bickley.

Community gardens are part of the housing development.

"Nueva Maravilla" Combines Housing and Senior Center

by Lupe Bickley

The special significance of Maravilla, with its exemplary senior citizens' center, is seen not only in its well-designed new buildings but in the renewal of community spirit best typified by its name change to "Nueva Maravilla."

Built in 1943 as a barrack-style public housing project on a 54-acre site in East Los Angeles, by 1970 Maravilla had badly deteriorated. The financial plight of its residents was compounded by the depressing design of their homes, the lack of community services, the presence of rival gangs, and the inability to obtain gainful employment.

So severe were the project's deteriorating physical facilities, its lack of social service programs, and its low resident morale that the Housing Authority became faced with the reality that remodeling alone would not be the answer to these problems. Total renewal would be required in order to achieve permanent results. Late in 1972 HUD formally committed more than $10 million for Maravilla's complete reconstruction.

Under the new project, programs designed to assist residents in various social and economic matters were designed with their participation.Augmenting the residents' activities were two local agencies, Casa Maravilla and the East Los Angeles Community Union, both working in conjunction with the Housing Authority. The result was total community involvement concerned with the needs and ambitions of all residents.

At first, the seniors were very skeptical. When service-providers say they are going to help people, potential users may rightfully distrust them, on the basis of prior experience. Providers have to prove themselves with their actions, especially in East Los Angeles, where so many programs have come and gone, without doing more than scratching the surface of the many serious problems of the community. East Los Angeles Spanish-speaking senior citizens had good reason to be skeptical.

The foundations for a successful senior citizens program were laid in 1973, when Casa Maravilla organized a Senior Citizens Advisory Board from among the residents of the Maravilla housing project. This group's input into the plans for the rebuilding of the Maravilla project led to the inclusion of 150 units exclusively for low-income senior citizens, as well as a new building for a senior citizens community center. The new facilities were dedicated in 1974, and have been in continuous use ever since.

With the opening of the new center came the beginning of a nutrition project.

A broad range of social services is provided at Casa Maravilla's Senior Citizens Center. The information and referral service handles many types of problems.

The counseling staff visits shut-ins on a regular basis, to provide companionship and help with problems. In many cases the center can arrange for housekeeping, shopping, and cooking services for those who are disabled through the County Homemaker Service.

The Club De Las Rosas has organized a committee in each unit of senior housing at the Maravilla project to check on residents everyday to make sure that they are all right. In case of an accident or medical emergency, the committee calls for assistance.

The center offers a wide range of classes in cooperation with Garfield Adult School, and sponsors many recreational activities, including a bowling club which is transported to the bowling alley every Friday.

Seniors in the Maravilla area are eligible to use the free medical services provided by the clinic at Casa Maravilla. The clinic is run in cooperation with Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, and provides general medical services and emergency first aid. Prescriptions from the clinic are filled daily at the Medical Center.

What has evolved at the Casa Maravilla Senior Citizens Center is a program that encourages and supports seniors on a one-to-one basis. There is an old Mexican saying, "Whatever we have, we offer with our whole heart." That is the philosophy of our work. To be old in America is to be forgotten by society. But being old does not mean losing one's dignity, one's pride, one's respect. Our programs do not exist just to provide services; our goal is to help people help themselves. Doing everything for seniors would not help them; it would cripple them and make them even more dependent. With our support, seniors are helping themselves and each other.

Insights... senior page

by Josephine M. Smith and Dwight C. Smith

This Senior Page is a new venture. It should be hailed from coast to coast, since it indicates that this gerontological journal is willing to let a couple of "old people" be responsible for its contents. It used to be that "old people should be seldom seen and never heard," but those days are gone. Those bright young Ph.D.'s, fresh from ivy-covered halls, have admitted that they don't know all there is to know about old people from reading books. *What we hope is that every older citizen will feel this page is his or her personal responsibility. The Senior Page needs to hear from you: so write! comment! question! criticize! innovate!*

In this issue devoted to minority aging, we are reporting on a black woman who lives in a pocket of poverty in the midst of plenty. It is the story of a woman with very limited resources, chronic disabilities, and no political clout, who has made a difference in her community. She has refused to give up. She represents what one motivated, dedicated elderly black woman can do. There must be hundreds of others like her, whatever color, who could borrow some of her courage. Age has nothing to do with it.

If you could have just one thing for your old people, what would it be?

Mrs. Elsie Manning, in her late 60's, did not hesitate, "I want a big house—with a lot of rooms—where I could take my old folks and keep an eye on 'em, cook for 'em and keep 'em clean and happy. All my old folks need is somebody to look after 'em and love 'em—they don't need nursing homes."

Mrs. Manning doesn't come from Harlem, Watts, or any other black ghetto. She lives in Pomona, California, in a section that is open and uncluttered, where the nearby San Gabriel mountains can be seen on those days when smog allows the view. Pomona is a pleasant city, but somehow services to this concentration of elderly black people in the South Hills area range from inadequate to the vanishing point. If it were not for Mrs. Manning and the South Hills Presbyterian Church, they would vanish.

Mrs. Manning likes to think of herself as "a swinger". She was born in Mississippi, where she spent her first 16 years in poverty, chopping and plowing cotton, tending cows. Her parents were grimly determined that she finish the eighth grade and she did. After 25 years in New Orleans, where she married, raised a family of eight children, worked as a cook and housemaid she moved to California to be with her daughter.

"Young folks think we ought to move over, that we're out of style. We've got something to do—just plenty to do. We got to work together, black and white. Pomona's a good city, but it's got to be better." With that philosophy urging her on, Mrs. Manning tries to ignore her arthritis, her hypertension, her asthma, and does what she can. Each day Mrs. Manning visits "her old folks" who need help shopping, cleaning, washing, or preparing hot meals. Since she can't do it all, she has recruited and trained members of her church, who share these tasks and report to her.

It didn't take Mrs. Manning long to find out that adequate diet was one of the basic problems her old folks faced. In cooperation with South Hills Presbyterian Church, a small nutrition program was established which feeds about 40 old people a day. Mrs. Manning was hired to cook for $2.30 an hour—a wage that has not varied in the five years she has held the job.

Mrs. Manning's total income comes from Social Security, SSI, and her take-home pay from the nutrition program. Her son left her a little house (mortgaged) which gives her a pleasant home. "But the taxes!" Mrs. Manning has Medi-Cal—called Medicaid in all other states—and sees her doctor fairly regularly. Transportation is a major problem. While she can walk with a cane to visit her "old folks", she can't walk to her doctor. Local bus transportation is totally inadequate in this area—planned by "one of them Men on Mars", as she describes it. It's a challenge to Mrs. Manning. Volunteers with cars supply what public service programs should be doing, to the best of Mrs. Manning's ability to cajole.

"How do you keep going? How do you know when to stop?" Mrs. Manning thinks these are silly questions. "I'm a child of God," she replies, "and God keeps me going. Jesus had to walk a lot, with no buses; I bet his feet hurt sometimes, too."

Now Mrs. Manning has her rest home (as she calls it) on her mind. She wants, and the community needs, some central Senior Center where nutrition and many services can combine under one umbrella. This is a remote part of the city and what the city can't see it is likely to forget. A clinic has been started and works well. The small nutrition program is a beginning. Volunteers from the church and the community have a sense of dedication, but they haven't got much clout.

Mrs. Manning gets things done, but she needs direction. She needs advocates in higher places. She sees need from the vantage point of one of the needy. What's the next step?

"I want to keep an eye on 'em." Is that an impossible request...? "All they need is somebody to look after 'em and love 'em." Well, maybe not *all;* but you start somewhere. And please note that the operative word in that sentence is "start".

Vibrations...student page

by Cynthia Mitchell

THIS IS OUR PAGE

One page of each issue of *Generations* will now be devoted to student news and events. A lot of different things could happen on this page. Whatever happens, the student board members will need your help.

A large portion of the student page could be allocated to feedback from the student network. The recommendations and viewpoints expressed by students through the network could make the student page an important communication tool for informing the WGS Board of Directors and general membership.

With the range of suggestions and ideas coming from the student network, the content for this page is wide open. Perhaps students in your area have established a practical service program for the elderly in conjunction with a research project. Many innovative internships have been established especially for students in gerontology. Why not share your experience with others? Pictures with captions would be welcome too. Perhaps you have questions concerning WGS or some area of gerontology. These are only a few possibilities. You may have some subject ideas of your own.

If you would like to contribute an article, picture or idea for the November issue of *Generations*, please submit it by September 30. This is your page, so grab some space and get a piece of the action!

STUDENT NETWORK

Student involvement in WGS is growing! Last issue a call was made for students to volunteer as "contact persons" to form a student network from institutions in gerontology. The following contact persons offered these suggestions and comments on the role of students in the future of WGS.

Photo by Gloria Wentowski

Student Editor Cynthia Mitchell (far right) attended one of the many summer institutes on aging.

Larry McCleery
Andrus Gerontology Center
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA 90007.

Larry would like to see more students and new professionals involved in the planning process and as workshop participants at the 1978 WGS conference. He suggests that there be a WGS student meeting at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society, November 18-22, 1977, in San Francisco.

Jim McCabe
455 Lewers, No. 16
Honolulu, HI 96815.

Jim would like more student involvement in the different workshops at next year's WGS conference. He suggests that students participate on reactor panels. Jim also wants to see more structure and planning in the student workshop at next year's conference.

Dan George
305 "C" Street
Cheney, WA 99004.

Dan would like to have a day-long student workshop held in conjunction with the 1978 WGS Conference. He suggests this time could be spent in prioritizing student concerns and drafting resolutions to be presented to the general membership at the WGS business meeting.

☆ ☆ ☆

We need additional students to become contact persons at their respective colleges. Contact persons are responsible for relaying suggestions, questions, concerns, and information about student activities to the student board members, Mike Tkachuk of the University of Oregon and myself. In turn, we will disseminate the information to the WGS board and membership through this student page.

If there is already a contact person in your area, please get in touch with him or her and work together to be heard. If you would like to be a contact person in the student network, please write.

Cynthia Mitchell
WGS Student Representative
S.L. Community Action
2033 South State
Salt Lake City, UT 84115.

☆ ☆ ☆

COMMITTEES ENCOURAGE STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Are you looking for a new area to make use of your talents? Consider working with one of the fourteen WGS Standing or four Ad Hoc Committees. These committees review issues relevant to their members' areas of expertise and make recommendations to the WGS board of directors for policy consideration and adoption. Through these committees, students can become involved in planning for the annual conference, publicity, membership, publications, education, personnel, finance, awards, employment, by-laws, legislation, history and research. A complete listing of committee chairpersons appeared on page 12 of the spring issue of *Generations*.

HAPPENINGS

Aug. 8 - Sept. 2, Series of aging workshops, Institute of Gerontology, University of Michigan-Wayne State University, Ann Arbor, MI. Contact: Dorothy H. Coons, Director of Continuing Education, Institute of Gerontology, 520 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Aug. 27 - Sept. 10, Adult Education Scandinavian Study Tour. Contact: Linda Wantin, Howe Travel, 26400 Lahser Road, Suite No. 9, Southfield, MI 48034

Sept. 7 - 10, 8th European Congress of Clinical Gerontology, International Assn. of Gerontology, Bucharest, Rumania. Contact: The Congress, National Inst. of Gerontology & Geriatrics, 9 Manastirea Caldirusani, Sector 8, P.O. Box 1004, R-78178, Bucharest, Rumania.

Sept. 15 - 16, Quarterly Meeting, Federal Council on the Aging, DHEW, North Bldg., Washington, D.C. Contact: Cleo Tavani, Exec. Director, Federal Council on Aging, HEW-North Bldg., 330 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

Sept. 16 - 18, Fifth Annual Fitness After Fifty Conference, The Institute on Man & Science, Rensselaerville, N.Y. Contact: Sara Harris, Center for the Study of Aging, 708 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12208

Sept. 19 - 21, Bringing Continuity to Care: Perspectives, Services, Research. Hotel Triumph, Toronto, Canada. Contact: Dr. M. Farquhar, P.O. Box 14, Postal Station "C", Toronto, Canada M6J 3M7

Oct. 3 - 4, National Conference on Clinical Trials Methodology, Masure Auditorium, Clinical Ctr., NIH, Bethesda, MD. Contact: Dr. Robert Gordon, Bldg. 1, Rm. 107, NIH, Bethesda, MD 20014

Oct. 5 - 22, Aging and Society: Study and Tour of Denmark, Sweden & Rumania. Contact: Continuing Education Coord., Univ. of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA 98416

Oct. 13 - 16, Sixth Annual General and Scientific Meeting of Canadian Assn. on Gerontology, Loews "La Cite" Hotel, Montreal, Canada. Contact: Ms. Blossom T. Wigdor, Ph.D., Psychology Services, Queen Mary Veterans Hospital, Montreal, Canada H3W 1W5

Oct. 18 - 20, Urban Elderly Coalition Conference, hosted by the Baltimore Commission on Aging and Retirement Education, Hilton Hotel, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Urban Elderly Coalition, 1828 L St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

Oct. 21 - 23, Gerokinesiatrics International, Lawrence Frankel Foundation, W.V. Dept. of Welfare, and W.V. Comm. on Aging, Charleston, WV. Contact: The Foundation, Virginia at Brooks St., Charleston, WV 25301

Oct. 28 - 30, Sixteenth Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Association of Homes for the Aged, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix, AZ. Contact: Chris Nelson, AAHA, 1050 17th St., N.W., Suite 770, Washington, D.C. 20036

Oct. 29 - Nov. 1, National Adult Continuing Education Conference of the Adult Education Association and the National Association for Public Continuing and Adult Education, Detroit, MI. Contact: Adult Education Association, 810 18th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006

Nov. 7 - 11, Principles of Milieu Practice: Working with the Elderly in Treatment Settings, Institute of Gerontology, University of Michigan-Wayne State University, Ann Arbor, MI. Contact: Dorothy H. Coons, Director of Continuing Education, The Institute, 520 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Nov. 18 - 22, 30th Annual Scientific Meeting of Gerontological Society, Hilton Hotel, San Francisco, CA. Contact: Gerontological Society, 1 Dupont Circle, Suite 520, Washington, D.C. 20036

Nov. 27 - Dec. 3, International Seminar on Rheumatic Diseases, Tel Aviv, Israel. Contact: N. D. Yahalom, General Manager, Health Vacation Center, 44 Ibn Gvirol St., Tel Aviv, Israel.

Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, American Heart Assn. 50th Scientific Sessions (AHA Council on Cardiovascular Nursing Annual Scientific Sessions, Nov. 29-30), Miami Beach, FL. Contact: AHA, Scientific Programs, 7320 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231

Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, Quarterly Meeting, Federal Council on the Aging, DHEW, North Bldg., Washington, D.C. Contact: Cleo Tavani, Exec. Director, Federal Council on the Aging, HEW-North Bldg., 330 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201

Dec. 10, 8 days/7 nights Caribbean Fly/Sea Cruise, Oral Life History and Gerontology class. Contact: Gwendolyn Safier, Ph.D., R.N., 101 A Ascot Ct., Moraga, CA 94556

Dec. 8 - 10, Sixth National Conference on Transportation for Elderly and Handicapped, Orlando or St. Petersburg Beach, FL. Contact. Dr. W.G. Bell, Dept. of Urban & Regional Planning, Florida State Univ., Tallahassee, FL 32306

Jan. 22 - 24, 1978, The Second Annual Symposium on Education for Long-Term Care Administration, Marriott Hotel, New Orleans, LA. Contact: Office of Long-Term Care, Association of University Programs in Health Administration, 1775 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. Suite 312, Washington, D.C. 20036

WGS Fall Regional Meetings

Sept. 15	Salem, OR
Sept. 16	Seattle, WA
Sept. 19	Boise, ID
Sept. 20	Salt Lake City, UT
Sept. 21	Carson City, NV
Sept. 26	Los Angeles, CA
Sept. 27	San Diego, CA
Sept. 28	Phoenix, AZ
Sept. 29	Tucson, AZ
Oct. 3	Denver, CO; Helena, MT
Oct. 4	Bismark, ND; Albuquerque, NM
Oct. 5	Cheyenne, WY; Pierre, SD
Oct. 7	San Francisco, CA
Oct. 11	Sacramento, CA
Oct. 12	San Jose, CA
Oct. 13	Visalia, CA

TOO MANY CHOICES! I MISSED SO MUCH!

If that's how you felt after the Denver Conference . . . or if you weren't able to attend . . . here's your chance to fill in the gaps! Typewritten, verbatim transcripts of the Opening Session and all 14 Symposia are available now.

Price: $2.00 for each symposia or the Opening Session—an average of 35 pages each!
$20.00 for a complete package—639 pages—of all symposia and the Opening Session.
A SAVINGS OF $10.00

ORDER NOW! Attached is a check, payable to WESTERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, in the amount of $____for__set(s) of transcripts, at $2.00 each and/or__complete package(s) of all transcripts at $20.00 each.

Please indicate by (✔) which sessions you wish to order:

_____OPENING SESSION

_____CURRENT PRACTICES IN GERIATRIC HEALTH SERVICES

_____EDUCATION: A CITIZEN/PROFESSIONAL CONCERN

_____GROWING OLDER IN RURAL AMERICA

_____POLITICS, POWER & PRESSURE GROUPS

_____HOUSING: HOW, WHY, WITH WHOM?

_____LEISURE SERVICES AS LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

_____LAW & THE ELDERLY—ISSUES, PROGRAMS & SERVICES

_____INSTITUTIONAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS

_____CREATIVE LIFE STYLES

_____SURVIVAL KIT: INCOME & EMPLOYMENT

_____THE PUBLIC POLICY: WHERE ARE THE PIECES?

_____VOLUNTARISM & THE ELDERLY

_____INGREDIENTS FOR DELIVERY OF HUMAN SERVICES

_____COMMUNICATION & THE MEDIA

MAIL TO:
NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY_____ STATE _____ ZIP_____

IT'S NOT TOO LATE.....

to order a copy of "Aging in the Tricentennium: Assuming a Shared Responsibility", the *Proceedings* of the 22nd Annual WGS Meeting held in San Diego last year. Grace your library with the ONLY complete volume of information presented at the 1976 meeting. This 400 page edition includes: complete coverage of the major speeches, reviews of 90% of all concurrent institutes, 38 complete institute papers and speeches, abstracts of all 36 paper presentations featuring 12 complete papers, PLUS a beautiful section of photos from the Photography Contest. The price is *$9.00* for WGS members and *$12.00* for non-members. Make your check payable to Western Gerontological Society and send to WGS, 785 Market St., Suite 1114, San Francisco, CA 94103. ORDER NOW!

Please send _____ copies of San Diego Proceedings to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

***Proceedings* of 23rd Annual Meeting in Denver available soon!**
Watch your mailbox for the notice!

__New Membership
__Renewal

WESTERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP FORM 1977-78

Please type or print

Name _____ Position/Title _____

Organization _____

Business Address _____ Business Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Address _____ Home Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Which address do you prefer that we use: __Business __Home

__Individual Dues $20

__Senior (65+) Dues $10

__Student (Full Time) Dues $10

__Organizational Dues $40 (Specify one individual from your organization who will receive membership benefits)

__$1.00 Scholarship Contribution enclosed to make it possible for low-income seniors to attend the WGS Annual Meeting.

SPECIAL OFFER: Through special arrangements with the national Gerontological Society, all members of the Western Gerontological Society may subscribe to the national journals at the reduced rate of 50% off. Please indicate below if you wish to take advantage of this special offer. If so, include the appropriate amount for one or both journals in your membership check. THE AMOUNTS LISTED INCLUDE THE 50% REDUCTION.

__**THE GERONTOLOGIST**—$10.00 annually. Published 6 times a year—publishes articles of general interest; interprets and applies research in the field of practice; and keeps the reader abreast of new developments in the aging field.

__**JOURNAL OF GERONTOLOGY**—$15.00 annually. 6 issues per year. Publishes original research in biological sciences, clinical medicine, psychological and social sciences and social services; book reviews and an extensive current bibliography.

Send this application form and check payable to: **WESTERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 785 Market St., Suite 1114, San Francisco, CA 94103.**

WGS CONTRIBUTOR: In an effort to build a solid financial base to support its increasing activities, the WGS is establishing a contibutor category for a minimum donation of $50 over and above your annual membership dues. If this is at all possible for you, it will be deeply appreciated and will be recognized in a special way.

WESTERN GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

785 Market Street, Suite 1114
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 543-2617

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
San Francisco, CA
Permit No. 11155

Board of Directors

President
Marian Lupu, Tucson, AZ
President-elect
Paul Kerschner, Los Angeles, CA
Past President
W. Roy Van Orman, Boise, ID
Secretary
Leon Harper, Los Angeles, CA
Treasurer
Fernando Torres-Gil, Los Angeles, CA
HEW Region VIII
Leon PoVey, Salt Lake City, UT
Robert Robinson, Denver, CO
Mel White, Salt Lake City, UT
HEW Region IX
Charles Amor, Honolulu, HI
Lowell Brinson, Carson City, NV
Gloria Dulgov, Tucson, AZ
Michael Gilfix, Palo Alto, CA
HEW Region X
Ken Cameron, Seattle, WA
Ruth Haefner, Portland, OR
Peter Peth, Portland, OR
Arlene Warner, Boise, ID

Student Representatives
Cynthia Mitchell, Salt Lake City, UT
Michael Tkachuk, Portland, OR

New Addresses—If you've moved, give us notice so that you will be sure to receive "Generations" and other WGS mailings. We try to keep our mailing list as up-to-date as possible.